

La Grande Evening Observer

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WAR DEPARTMENT SURE VILLA IS DEAD

PERSHING WILL RETURN WITHIN THE MONTH; BREAK NO LONGER A LIKLIHOOD

Washington, July 17.—Pancho Villa is dead, General Pershing's troops will leave Mexico within a month, and militiamen will return home within three months, a prominent war department official declared today.

Minority leaders in Mexico are using Villa's name to inspire fear among Carranzistas, but Carranza is stronger in Mexico than ever before today, principally because he averted war with America without loss of dignity.

Army men today declared there is not one chance in a thousand of further trouble with Mexico, either through repetition of the Parral or Carrizal incidents, or bandit raids. Since the Carrizal attack has been cleared and Carranza's note received, the war department has considered the Mexican trouble over.

"Villa himself couldn't hurt Carranza now," declared the official, "and Villa is dead, according to our reports. We believe his name is being used to embarrass Carranza and inspire fear, but we believe he is dead, and his cause buried with him."

Eagle Pass, July 17.—Carranza troops at Piedrasnegras and Monclova have moved southward to oppose large Villistas forces marching toward the border, Mexican sources have reported.

WAREHOUSE SCORCHED

Sunday Noon Fire Drives Out in Wholesale District.

Elevated walks and runways connecting the main floor of the La Grande Fruit company warehouse in the stone building once owned and occupied by the Grande Ronde Cash company, with the freight cars that are spotted on the switch track for unloading, small quantities of coal in bins nearby and the door and portions of the roof to the building proper, were destroyed by fire yesterday noon. It required two streams of water to get control of the blaze which fortunately, occurred at a time when there was little wind. Later in the afternoon more serious results would unquestionably have occurred for a very high wind was then blowing. Water and fire did about \$350 in damage to the stock, partially covered by insurance. It will require probably as great a figure to replace the approaches. It was thought for a time that a locomotive spark ignited inflammable matter between the building and the track but railroad officials disavow the theory, claiming they have proof to the contrary.

Prohibitionists' Convention To Open

St. Paul, Minn., July 17.—A chorus of 1,000 voices, not one of which ever raised its clarion tone to the strains of "Hail, Hail, The Gang's All Here," will lead the Prohibitionists' National Convention in song when it opens here tomorrow.

More than twenty thousand song books of the convention have been scattered throughout the country and prohibitionists from every state have learned the list. Hundreds of auto parties are on their way into the city today from so far as 3,000 miles distant, holding impromptu prohibition song services along the route.

The chorus will be led by Rollin M. Pease of St. Paul who, though now a professional singer, has been law clerk, miner, tramp, rancher, machinist and builder. He wrote many of the convention songs.

Among the songs are such as these: "Our Nation's Going Dry," "Ring Out Wild Bells," "Katie Is Cashing My Check," "Down In The Licensed Saloon," and several dozen more like that.

FAIR BOOSTERS COME

Various Candidates for Regal Honors At Cove Promoted

Practically every automobile in and about Cove was drafted and commandeered today to accommodate Cove residents who toured the valley advertising the Cherry fair which is set for Thursday of this week. Various candidates for king and queen of the show were advanced in their campaigns by the sale of pennants and cherry short streamers and banners of many kinds were bought in La Grande today.

Organ Player At Arcade

Chas. H. Stevens, of Walla Walla, who has achieved considerable note as pipe organist and piano player, has accepted an engagement at the Arcade theater.

Stevedores Still Out

San Francisco, July 17.—Although stevedores voted overwhelmingly in favor of returning to work under conditions existing before the strike, with the understanding wages are to be adjusted at a new conference, they didn't return to work. They are waiting for reports of strikers in other states regarding ballots on the same question. Seattle is the only place where ratification may bring trouble.

Gaskils Off On Trip

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gaskil left yesterday in their car for Portland and the coast. Mrs. Gaskil will remain at the seashore for a time but Mr. Gaskil will start home within two weeks.

Colorado Highway Dedicated.

Durango, Colo., July 17.—Atop the great continental divide, 10,000 feet above sea level, the new Colorado State highway across the backbone of the American continent, from South Fork to Pagosa Springs, was formally dedicated today. Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona will profit by the new avenue of communication opened into the San Luis valley hereby. It also is a wonderful scenic route.

U-Boat and Mines' Toll Big

Berlin, July 17 (Wireless to Sayville).—During June 61 enemy merchantmen, for a total tonnage of 100,000 were sunk by U-boat and mines, it is officially announced.

Bond Buyers Make Good Bids.

Two Portland bank representatives have offered to pay for cost of a special election and appeared with a proposition to buy a bond issue of \$87,710.67 to float that amount of outstanding warrants at Albany. The council will consider the proposition at a special meeting soon.

HIGH WINDS TOPPLE WALLS

CONSTRUCTION OF O-W ROUND-HOUSE IMPAIRED

Thousand Dollars Lost By Contractors—Dust Storm Severe

A very severe wind and dust storm broke forth in Grande Ronde Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock. While there is little damage reported beyond that of the breaking down of trees in the vicinity of Union and in other localities. There were clouds of dust along the principal highways of the valley.

Damage in La Grande
Several trees were blown down in South La Grande, but the most serious damage was that of the falling of a portion of the new brick walls for the round-house addition. The walls had just been completed and the structure was ready for the roof. About three-fourths of the brick work toppled over, having been struck by the force of the wind at the most critical time. The loss entailed in the work of rebuilding is estimated at a thousand dollars.

Buyers New Drums

E. H. Ford, drummer at the Arcade and in the band, has bought a set of tympanis drums, which cost considerable and is one of the most complete sets brought to La Grande.

Horse Kills Boy.

Wilbur Rainwater, the 10-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy S. Rainwater of Oregon City, was kicked over the heart by a horse and instantly killed. The boy with his parents were driving along the county road when he stopped to cut a switch from a bush, and in climbing back on the wagon put his hand on the horse's hip. The horse kicked the lad squarely over the heart and he dropped back to the road dead.

Women Asks for Two Divorces.

Mrs. Pearl Johnson Van Dorn Lewis of Tacoma, Wash., has asked for a divorce from one husband, and an annulment of a marriage to a second. She charges the first husband with desertion, and, later believing him dead, she married again but a few months later he also left. No children were born of either marriage.

SCENES OF DAMAGE WROUGHT BY SOUTHERN TORNADO.



RESCUE BOAT PARTY UPSET

CATAWABA RIVER FLOODS ARE SERIOUS

Southern Railroad Suspends Traffic—Bridges Out

Charlotte, July 17.—Grave fears are felt that the rescue party attempting to have twenty people engulfed in the Catawaba River, when a Southern railway trestle broke last night, is lost. The boat, carrying rescuers was capsized and none have been found. The Southern railroad has practically suspended traffic south of Washington. A second bridge went out at 3 o'clock this morning.

Trains are unable to proceed beyond Salisbury.

CITY LIVERY SOLD

Jack McCarthy Will Operate. One Concern Out of Two

John Courtney has sold the City Livery to Jack McCarthy owner of the St. Louis livery. Mr. McCarthy will continue to lease the City Livery barn out, but will operate as one hereafter but what previously was two concerns, and this gives a big assortment of rigs of various types which Mr. McCarthy has for the public to choose from.

Kitchener's Coat of Arms Sported

London, July 17.—A look at the late Lord Kitchener's Coat-of-Arms today disclosed that it sported a regular menagerie including an elephant, a camel, a gnu, a stag, an eagle, a lion and three bustards, all denizens of countries in which K. of K. had served his king.

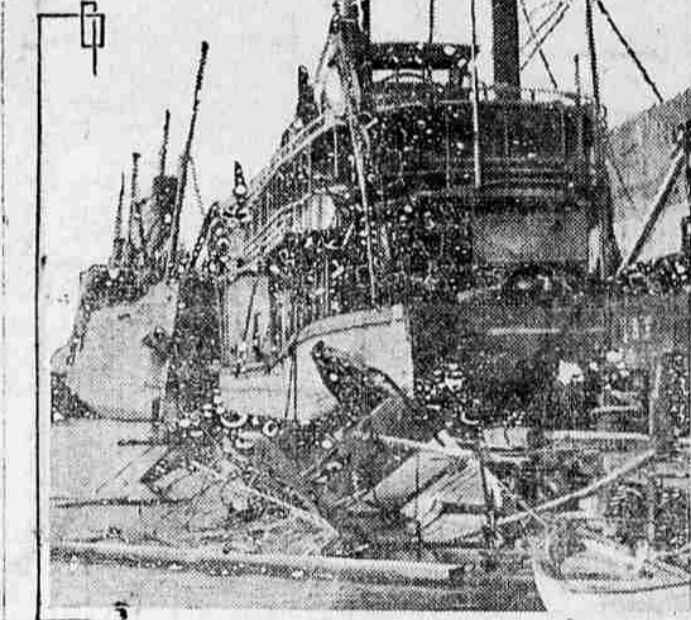
Orphanage Children Taken for Rides

Cleveland, July 17.—Three thousand girls and boys from Cleveland orphanages were treated to joyrides in 600 autos donated by Clevelanders today.

BREAK WAR RULE TO PLEASE DOG.



"Roma" the great Dane mascot of the Auckland (New Zealand) mounted corps missed her best friend, a rifle, refused food for three days because of the dog being brought to the man's bedside where there was a pathetic meeting.



The upper picture shows Dauphin-st, Mobile, Ala., looking west, flooded after the tornado which caused damage in Mobile estimated at \$3,000,000; below is the great sugar boat Wm. Tuynig, driven high on the wreckage of the Mobile & Ohio wharf.

The storm was the worst since 1906, sweeping the entire Gulf coast and causing severe damage to the crops. One steamer in dry dock was carried a half mile and landed high and dry.

ASTORIA RATE DECREE STANDS

REHEARSING DENIED BY I. C. C. COMMISSION

Parity With Puget Sound Effective September 15th

Washington, July 17.—The Interstate Commerce commission has denied application for a rehearing in the Astoria rate case ordering Astoria to be placed on a parity with Puget Sound ports as to railroad rates. The new rates are ordered effective September 15th.

MT. EMILY HAS NEW LOOKOUT

VISITORS TO PEAK CLIMB NEW STRUCTURE.

On Account of Low Hanging Clouds, Vision Curtailed—Visitors Tell Experiences.

The unusual experience of being right in the clouds was enjoyed by a party of 17 people on the top of Mt. Emily Sunday. They were mostly residents of Fruitdale and they had three conveyances to accommodate the party. The teams were driven within a mile or so of the summit and the completion of the ascent was made on foot, although it is possible to drive a vehicle to the very top. The day began clear and bright and it was expected that some grand views would be had from the summit of the mountain. This was in fact partially realized but before long there was a change and the dome of the mountain was enveloped in clouds and mist.

Compared to the Alps.

One member of the party, Miss Harriet Young who spent three years in Europe, compared the scene yesterday to that which she had experienced in the Alps.

"It is a sight well worth the trouble," says Miss Young. "There was a strong breeze part of the time and this kept up an ever varying change. Sometimes we would be wrapped up in the clouds and then they would swirl away and leave us; then again there would be bright sunshine above while just below us was a restless, billowing sea of clouds."

Another member of the party said: "It was certainly a great experience to be actually elbowing with the clouds. You could not only see them but also feel them and know that you were in the midst of vapors which would be classed as a fog only for the fact that they kept in motion and afforded a panoramic change that could not be experienced anywhere else except right among the clouds, themselves."

Lookout Station Complete.

The new lookout station, a tower about 25 or 30 feet in height, is on the very summit. Most of the visitors Sunday went up this tower, but the condition of the atmosphere was such that there was not much long-distance sight-seeing possible.

Motored to Baker

"Fat" Prescott motored to Baker yesterday in his car taking along a group of friends.

KAISER SAW TROOPS FALL TO THE REAR

REVERSES SATURDAY OCCURRED WHILE RULER WAS DISTRIBUTING IRON CROSSES

DISPATCHES AVER NEW GAINS HAVE BEEN MADE

French Have Little To Do During Past Night on the Somme While Paris Claims French Successes Near Verdun—Lull in Fighting in the East.

London, July 17.—The Kaiser was at the Somme front when his army retreated before the British Saturday, it became known today. An official Berlin statement confirmed reports of the Kaiser's presence, saying he conferred with the commanding generals and gave out several iron crosses.

Petrograd reports Germans are massing enormous forces before Kovel, hoping to stall the Russian machine. Comparative calm there, now is believed to be a prelude to heavy and important fighting. Kovel's fall would be a staggering blow to the central powers, completely disrupting their plans and menacing Lemberg, the opening of the road to Brestliovsk and threatening the rear in the Pinsk region, while necessitating German withdrawal.

Russians don't lack ammunition. A semi-official news agency at Berlin has wired that according to the Petrograd official casualty lists, the Russian losses since the beginning of the present offensive until July first was more than 262,000.

Russians in France Active.

Paris, July 17.—Russian troops on the French Champagne front counter attacked successfully last night, inflicting heavy losses. There was no important French fighting in the Somme region but French progressed at the Verdun front, capturing three Mitrailuses.

British Gain on Wide Front

London, July 17.—British stormed and captured the German second positions on a 1500-yard front, General Haig reported this afternoon. They advanced northwest of Bazentin wood and the British are at the very edge of Marincourt village.

Russians Arrive at Brest

Brest, July 17.—Another convoy of Russian troops has landed here today.

BUILDINGS BILL IN

In Face of Presidential Protest Measure Comes Forward

Washington, July 17.—The public buildings bill carrying \$35,000,000 was introduced in the House today despite the President's opposition. It is not expected to pass at this session. The appropriations include \$10,000 for a building site at Corvallis.

RURAL CREDITS NOW LAW.

President Pays Tribute to Farmer as He Signs the Bill.

Washington, July 17.—Accompanying the act with a speech paying tribute to farmers, the President today signed the rural credits bill, providing a system of land mortgage banks for handling long-time mortgage loans to farmers.

The Faithful Hen.

Fred King of South La Grande has a Barred Rock hen that will make all O. A. C. hens get up a little earlier in the morning. This hen has a record of 29 eggs in 29 days, the time ending July 1. She laid off a few days and then began laying again. Mr. King is positive that there is no better strain of blood for laying than this Barred Rock and results seem to justify that conclusion.

STEAMSHIP IN TROUBLE

Northwestern Making Her Way to Seattle Without Propeller Blade
Seattle, July 17.—The Alaska Steamship company's steamer Northwestern is making her way to Seattle today minus a propeller blade. She is reported in distress off Queen Charlotte Island, 80 miles north of Cape Scott. Company officials announced she is in no danger. The tug Golieth is assisting her.