

# La Grande Evening Observer

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

VOLUME XVI

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## Brotherhood May Accept Federal Mediation

### DECISION A SURPRISE

FLAT REFUSAL FEW HOURS  
PREVIOUSLY CHANGED DUR-  
ING DAY.

### QUICK ACTION A POINT WORKMEN INSIST UPON

Conditions in La Grande as Usual  
With No Outward Appearance of  
Strike Preparations—Meat Supply  
Ample but Fruits and Imported  
Vegetables Scarce—Bread Ample.

New York, Aug. 9.—The four rail-  
road brotherhood representatives who  
were today to go into conference with  
railroad managers in an effort to  
avoid a strike this afternoon an-  
nounced they would accept federal  
mediation, provided action was taken  
immediately.

Acceptance of mediation from the  
brotherhoods came as a big surprise.  
This morning the workmen's chief-  
tains flatly refused mediation, Presi-  
dent Wilson having sent the board to  
New York last night to stand by to  
offer services at the first request for  
it. Soon after the refusal had been  
made, the workmen went into execu-  
tive session and when that conference  
was over the announcement of  
changed minds was made.

Late this evening A. B. Garretson,  
head of the Conductors' brotherhood  
said in explanation of the announce-  
ments previously made:

"We simply accepted friendly of-  
fices of the federal mediation board.  
The issue is simply mediation, and not  
arbitration, and we are not bound to  
accept intermediaries' proposals." The  
date of the first conference is not  
fixed, but may be tonight.

### Arbitration Story Scouted.

Various railroad employees in La  
Grande who keep close tabs on devel-  
opments this afternoon scouted the  
dispatches from New York to the ef-  
fect the brotherhoods are willing to  
mediate. They contend the decision  
under ordinary course of business  
could neither be rejected nor adopted  
in the short space of time the rep-  
resentatives have had to consider the  
matter since they met. Several em-  
ployees refused point-blank to believe  
the news when advised of the story by  
the Observer.

That likelihood of a nation-wide  
railroad strike is a very serious pos-  
sibility isn't emphasized in La Grande  
from outward appearances, in the  
face of the fact that great numbers  
of men are vitally interested. The  
O-W. has made no outward prepara-  
tion to handle the strike if it comes.  
Press dispatches tell of other roads  
going into careful preparation to meet  
conditions that may arise, but the  
O-W. has made no such arrange-  
ments. The men themselves are pro-  
ceeding with their routine duties as  
though nothing were at stake.

Suspense, is, of course, of a keen  
sort, but it isn't reflected in the  
yards or on trains.

False rumors that the strike is al-  
ready called float about persistently  
and the Observer has been besieged  
hourly the past day or two with in-  
quiries to verify reports that the  
strike is on.

While plans may be upset, repre-  
sentatives from the four brother-  
hoods in La Grande were of the op-  
inion when they left for New York, that  
the negotiations between representa-  
tives and company managers at New  
York which began today, would be of  
considerable duration. Something  
may develop to shorten this all-im-  
portant conference some, but honest  
effort to bring about peace will be  
made—that much is certain.

### Food Supply Ample.

La Grande wouldn't suffer actual  
want for a considerable time, food  
producers declare raw meats can be  
hauled to town by wagon or driven in  
on foot with sufficient ease to prevent  
meat shortage. Wholesale grocers  
have enough on hand in the way of  
luxuries and necessities to keep up  
the normal demand for a considerable  
time, although it stands to reason  
some articles of food would be gob-  
bled up—but as for actual want, no  
such condition is expected. Bread  
supplies in bakeries are ample.

Fresh fruits from outlying points  
would be the first to disappear, and  
only such vegetable and fruit sup-  
plies as could be hauled to town would  
be available the moment trains cease  
to carry express or freight.

QUARTET WHICH HEADS NEARLY 400,000 WORKMEN ABOUT TO  
MEDIATE STRIKE QUESTIONS



Heads of the four railway brotherhoods now in conference with managers  
over pending strike—Top, left to right, A. B. Garretson (conductors),  
and W. G. Lee (trainmen); below, W. S. Carter (firemen), and W. S.  
Stone (engineers.)

### RACE MEETING SHAPES WELL

VARIOUS DAYS DESIGNATED BY  
DIRECTORS.

Meeting Last Evening Discloses  
Healthy Preliminary State.

With all departments of work for  
the horse races to be held in La  
Grande, September 6, 7, 8 and 9 cov-  
ered by competent men the Racing  
club directors adjourned last evening  
after a very satisfactory meeting.

From every direction comes the  
encouraging words for the horse  
races. Men and women, too, have  
gone out of their way to express  
their approval of a first-class racing  
card, such as La Grande is to have,  
and to openly state that of late years  
there has been lack of interest in life  
because the sports had drifted away  
from the greatest of all sports—horse  
racing. Almost as many ladies as  
men have voiced their joy and pleas-  
ure over the excellent racing bill that  
is sure to be seen here.

The big event opens on Wednesday  
and that will be La Grande day.  
Every effort will be made to have La  
Grande know her own show on the  
first day, for the club believes it is  
necessary for any proposition to stand  
well at home before the home people  
conscientiously go out and boost it to  
outsiders.

For La Grande day the following  
program is arranged:  
2:14 pace with 10 starters for  
purse of \$400.

Run—quarter mile, purse \$100.

Run—La Grande Derby, one and

one-sixteenth miles for purse of \$100.

Relay race—First day of the relay.

Wallawa County Thursday.

Wallawa county day will be on

Thursday and arrangements are being

made to have a special train run in

from that county. The program for

Thursday is the equal if not better

than the first day.

Friday will be Union-Cove-North

Powder day and special transporta-

tion facilities will be made for that

day. Elgin, Summerville and Imbler

claim Saturday the last day of the

meet, and on that day some of the

greatest races of the entire program

are slated. The final day is a dandy

from every viewpoint and it is be-

lieved many who come on the other

days will stay over for the big clos-

ing event.

Barber to Wed.

Ottis Veal, a barber in the Guy El-

lis shop on Depot street, and Lula

Clegg were today granted a marriage

license by County Clerk Ed Wright.

The couple expect to be married this

evening.

### PARENTS ASKED TO AID OFFICERS

MINORS APPROACHING MAN-  
HOOD HARD TO REACH.

Pool Hall Violations Can Be Stopped  
With Assistance of Parents,  
Is Contention.

An appeal for co-operation on the  
part of parents has been made by Dis-  
trict Attorney Colon R. Eberhard, for  
assistance in the matter of enforcing a  
state statute prohibiting proprietors of  
cigar stores, card rooms, billiard  
rooms and other similar places from  
allowing minors to engage in any  
game of cards, billiards, dice throwing  
or any other game of chance in such  
places. Experience has shown the  
officers that it is exceedingly difficult  
to determine the exact age of many  
young men, not only from the stand-  
point of the proprietor but from that  
of the officer, as well. In a number

### WHEAT YIELD BETTER THAN FIRST ESTIMATED; DOLLAR SALES BOTH BRISK AND BIG

As combines and headers are bit-  
ting into Union county grain fields  
this week, it becomes apparent that  
the yield per acre is going to be  
greater than first estimated. Some  
fine crops are being cut and harvested,  
as the machines eat their way into  
the fields, it has been proven that the  
valley's yield will reach a point near  
normal. In certain sections,  
particularly between Cove and Union,  
it is feared the yield will be light, but  
when harvesting commences there,  
pre-cutting estimates may be disprov-  
en even there. The acreage of course  
is under the past two seasons.

Big Prices Enthusiasm.  
While wheatmen are finding their  
crops generally better than expected,  
financial circles are highly elated  
over the widespread offers for \$1.00  
wheat.

Dollar Wheat Popular.  
Brisk sales at an even dollar for  
wheat are going on throughout the  
valley. Sam Brooks of Imbler was  
the first man to bring wheat into the  
elevators but his was for storage pur-  
poses. No deliveries of contracted  
wheat have been made thus far, but  
it is expected that within a week all  
parts of the wheat areas will be busy  
with harvest. Lower Cove is a little  
behind the Imbler and Sandridge sec-  
tion and Union still later than Cove.  
Crickett Flat is harvesting a fine  
crop. But at most points the farm-

ers are willing to sell at the even dol-

lar.

"I have been in the grain-buying

business for 30 years and this is the

first time that the market opened at

\$1.00," explained E. E. Kiddle of the

Kiddle string of mills today after re-

turning from a trip through the

Northend yesterday afternoon. He

reports that \$1.00 is easy figuring and

farmers generally call that good

enough.

Yesterday's brief storm throughout

the Grande Ronde valley, halted har-

vest operations in the Pumpkin Ridge

and Elgin districts and at Island City

for a brief time, but in the center of

the valley there was less rain. A

heavy hailstorm hit the Pumpkin

Ridge district at noon and ranged

over toward Elgin, and again at 2

o'clock it rained some more. It is

not believed material harm was done.

Combining is well started on the

Sandridge, but toward Cove headers

are the principal outfits in vogue just

now.

Wheat \$1.05 at Wallawa.

Wallawa, Aug. 8.—(Special)—The

highest price that this year's crop of

wheat has sold for was \$1.05 yester-

day when J. Q. Hockett bought the

crops of J. G. Ford and U. A. McCre-

es of Upper Whiskey creek. The coming

week will see several threshing out-

fits starting up.

## ITALIANS SCORE DECISIVE VICTORY OVER AUSTRIANS; BIG BARRIER FALLS

TENACIOUS OBSTACLE TO ITAL-  
IAN INVASION OF AUSTRIA  
DURING PAST 14 MONTHS  
OVERCOME; ITALIAN CITIES  
DECORATED AND JOYCRAZED  
CROWDS PARADE.

Rome, Aug. 9.—It is announced  
Italians this afternoon captured Gor-  
itz, when 10,000 prisoners were taken.  
This stronghold has prevented Italian  
invasion of Austria for 14 months.  
After seizing the bridge head Ital-  
ians stormed the citadel. This is  
the greatest single Allied victory since  
the triple offensive began.

### BY JOHN H. EARLY.

Rome, Aug. 9.—Two million men  
are battling fiercely at the Isonzo  
front and the battle may decide the  
war. Italians are pouring across the  
river to assault Goritz. They advance  
under the hottest fire, singing gaily  
and hamlets are flower-decked.

Scores of huge guns are pounding  
Goritz and Rome expects Italians to  
storm and capture the stronghold  
with a few hours.

Fifteen thousand Austrians have  
surrendered. Italian cities are de-  
corated and cheering mobs parade the  
streets.

### Hikers Reach New York.

Kenneth Hollister, Wm. A. Simon-  
ton and Raymond Moyer, the Portland  
high school boys who passed through  
La Grande in May on their transcon-  
tinental hike, reached New York this  
week, according to dispatches, having  
made the trip in three months to a  
day. The boys were entertained by  
the Elks lodge while in La Grande.

of instances, the district attorney  
states, boys thought to be minors  
have turned out to be of age, and in  
a few instances the opposite has de-  
veloped.

Where the parents of minors known  
to be engaging in the prohibited past  
time at these places will report the  
exact age to the officers, then actual  
notice can be given to the proprietors,  
and no trouble will be encountered in  
the future in reaching the proprie-  
tors, should there be any violations.  
The district attorney further states  
that a big majority of the establish-  
ments have at all times strictly  
obeyed the state statute, but in other  
instances both proprietors and officers  
have had considerable trouble in pre-  
venting minors from participating in  
the play.

The city and county officers are co-  
operating to the greatest extent pos-  
sible to enforce this and all other  
statutes relating to minors and it is  
hoped through the solicited co-opera-  
tion of parents to make the effort  
still more effective.

VILLISTAS ATTACK TRAIN  
AND KILL PASSENGERS.

El Paso, Aug. 9.—Chihuahua  
city has reported Villistas at-  
tacked a passenger train on the  
Durango-Torreon railroad near  
Noria and killed General Guilla-  
rdo and several soldiers and passen-  
gers.

The train escort killed ten  
Villistas.  
It is unconfirmedly reported  
that Villistas have occupied  
Torreon.

### PRISONER GIRLS JOYFUL.

Baker Jail Hears Singing by Two La  
Grande Girls.

Baker, Aug. 9.—City employees had  
music while they worked yesterday  
morning, that is those who work in  
the city hall. Two La Grande girls,  
taken into custody by Chief of Police  
Jackson on a request mailed by the  
La Grande authorities, were so thor-  
oughly impressed with the goodness  
of the world after being taken for an  
auto ride around the city in Mr. Jack-  
son's machine, that they couldn't  
keep from singing.

The two, only 15 years of age, were  
found at a local hotel and Harry War-  
dell, 23, who confessed that he had  
been paying their expenses, was ar-  
rested on a charge of contributing to  
their delinquency. The girls had left  
La Grande Friday, where they had  
been in care of the Salvation army,  
had eluded the officers sent to Hot  
Lake after them, and made their way  
to Baker.

## HUGHES MAKES MORNING TALK

WINONA, MINN., GREETES CAN-  
DIDATE EARLY.

"I Salute You" Declares Mr. Hughes  
as He Shakes Hands.

Winona, Minn., Aug. 9.—Mr.  
Hughes has delivered his first plat-  
form speech. He was breakfasting  
when the train stopped and he hur-  
ried to the platform and said "Good  
morning. I am very glad to have this  
opportunity of saying good morning.  
The fact you are here this hour shows  
the deep interest in this campaign.  
We want a revival of the true Amer-  
ican spirit. I represent the reunited  
Republican party, ready to safe-  
guard all the country's interests by  
wise and upbuilding policies. I sal-  
ute you." He went through the  
crowd shaking hands.

### EXCURSION GROWING.

Departure Occurs at 9:40 This Even-  
ing Bound for the Beaches.

By 9:40 tonight the Eastern Oregon  
special to the beach will whistle out  
loaded down with excursionists in  
large numbers. The company for a  
time was dubious about running the  
excursion this year and it was not  
until J. H. O'Neill had made an ex-  
haustive survey of the prospects that  
the train was ordered; now that it is  
about to materialize, indications are  
a splendid crowd will go. In addition  
to the three sleepers out of here,  
there will be a day coach from La  
Grande and four sleepers and a coach  
from points east.

The excursionists will proceed to  
Portland and there take boat for Meg-  
ler and from there go to the seashore,  
having a return limit on their tickets  
of a protracted date.

Traveling passenger agents for the  
company are in Eastern Oregon today  
seeing to it that the tourists get the  
best of accommodations. The Wal-  
lowa county party will come to town  
this evening and join the La Grande  
excursionists here.

La Grande people were slow in  
making reservations and are now  
impelled to take uppers.

### Cougar Kills Steer.

Beach Creek, Aug. 8.—While in the  
hills south of the valley D. Smith  
came onto a large two or three year  
old steer that had been killed in a  
thicket by some wild animal and from  
the indications a desperate struggle  
had ensued between them. Many  
footprints of bear were around the  
carcass that was partially eaten.  
Many of the ranchers are of the op-  
inion that cougars are doing the killing  
of the cattle and that bears help to de-  
vour the carcasses.

LONDON CONTENTS ALLIES AT  
ALL FRONTS ARE CRUSHING

TEUTON POWERS—ONLY AT  
THIAUMONT HAVE GERMANS  
THE UPPER HAND IN FIGHT-  
ING.

London, Aug. 9.—The Allies' mighty  
triple offensive is slowly crushing  
the central empires' armies at  
every front. Austrians, Germans  
and Turks are yielding ground at  
every war theatre except the Balkans  
where skirmishes herald another Al-  
lied drive.

Russians have defeated Austro-  
Germans on a thirty mile front and  
Italians have partially opened a path  
to Trieste.

British and French advanced on a  
four mile front of north Somme.  
Russians are gaining through Cau-  
casus.

Germans Gaining at Thiaumont.  
Paris, Aug. 9.—It is announced  
that the French have progressed  
through Fleury village though Ger-  
mans again have seized Thiaumont  
proper. Germans penetrated the  
French advanced trenches at Chaumes  
but later were ejected during hot  
bayonet fighting.

### Scotland Feels Air Raid.

London, Aug. 9.—It is announced  
zeppelins raided the east coast of  
England and Southeastern Scotland.  
One child, and three women were  
killed and 14 injured.

Coast guards shelled Zeppelins  
forcing a retreat. Gen. Haig reported  
the British gained North of  
Foziers last night and captured 15  
Germans. They hand-grenaded en-  
emy trenches.

Petrograd, Aug. 9.—It is announced  
Russians have captured Tysmenica  
seven miles east of Stanislaus. Sev-  
enty-four hundred prisoners were  
taken. Stanislaus' capture is immi-  
nent.

### PENDLETON BUSINESS HEAVY.

Probability that Extra Yard Engine  
Will Be Needed.

The likelihood of an extra yard en-  
gine in the Pendleton yards is being  
talked of in railroad circles. It is  
said that at the present time there is  
an extra spurt in business due largely  
to grain shipments and another en-  
gine to handle the local yard work is  
deemed a probable necessity. The  
crew for the additional engine will  
likely be recruited from La Grande.

### LINDSEY FOR WILSON.

Denver Jurist Promises "Cordial Sup-  
port" to Democratic Leader.

Denver, Aug. 9.—Judge Ben Lind-  
sey, a leading Progressive, has tele-  
graphed Pres. Wilson his assurances  
of "Cordial support" during the cam-  
paign.

### BRANDEIS HEADS ENVOY.

President Wilson Selects Chairman of  
Mexican Conference Body.

Washington, Aug. 9.—It is author-  
itatively stated Pres. Wilson has se-  
lected Judge Brandeis as head of the  
American commission to confer with  
the Mexican representatives to settle  
border questions. Secretary Lane is  
also a member. The third appointee  
is unannounced.

### HOUSE ADOPTS BILL.

Conferees Would Let Boys Under 21  
Enlist Without Consent.

Washington, Aug. 9.—The House  
has accepted the conferees' army bill  
report. It permits boys under 21 to  
enlist despite parents' protests. Sen.  
La Follette is drafting a senate bill  
preventing such enlistments.

### RAILROADER DEAD.

A. B. Stickney Is Victim of Intestinal

Troubles.

St. Paul, Aug. 9.—A. B. Stickney,  
founder of the Chicago Great Western  
railroad died at his home today of in-  
testinal troubles.

### Enjoys Cool Oregon.

F. P. Rhodes and wife, and daugh-  
ter Avis Keene, are guests with Mr.  
Rhodes' brother, W. A. (Dusty)  
Rhodes. After spending a few days  
in this vicinity they will return to  
Salina, Kans., from whence they have  
recently come. They report a pro-  
longed heat spell there that saw little  
relief by day or night for a period of  
several weeks, and the cool breezes  
from off the Blue mountains were im-  
mensely enjoyed by the Kansans to-  
day.