

La Grande Evening Observer

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Managers Retract Proposals

CHANGED ATTITUDE HAS COMPELLED NEW POLICY

Railroad Presidents Summoned To White House---Wilson's Proposal Short

Washington, Aug. 17.—President Wilson's proposal, which was a carefully guarded secret until the Brotherhood's representatives met with the executive this afternoon, is this: Wilson proposes immediate granting of the eight-hour day and the appointment of a presidential commission to investigate other demands. The eight-hour plan would not be on a trial, but permanent. The trainmen immediately started a caucus after the conference leaders had predicted the Brotherhood would overwhelmingly accept Wilson's plan. It is said that if they will do this, Mr. Wilson will command the railroad presidents and the managers when they meet him tonight or tomorrow, to bow to the concessions made by the railroaders.

Washington, Aug. 17.—President Wilson used the long distance and telegraph today in summoning to his side presidents of many of the leading railroads of the east, sending each this message: "Discussion of matters involved in the threatened strike has reached the point making it highly desirable I personally confer with you at the earliest moment. I hope you can make it convenient to come to Washington immediately." A dozen railroad presidents left New York at 4 this afternoon for Washington in response to Wilson's summons, and Chicago managers and presidents leave tonight, expecting to reach here tomorrow. President Willard of the Baltimore & Ohio was the first president called.

Managers Change Front.
The summons was the result of the manager's refusal to concede the eight hour day as was tentatively promised yesterday. President Wilson's arguments have not moved the managers from the position taken last evening.

Politics Is Charged.
Several of the managers charge the chief executive with attempting to delay a settlement until after the election. It is learned the managers have balloted three against the Wilson proposal during the last two days.

Employees See Wilson.
Six hundred and forty trainmen's representatives arrived here today to meet with President Wilson at 3 o'clock. The men secretly conferred at the National hotel this morning after their arrival from New York.

Trainmen Quizzed.
President Wilson sent Mediator Chambers to ask if the Trainmen understood the President's attitude thoroughly. They replied in the affirmative. One Brotherhood leader said:

Willing to Stand Pat.
"Evidently the managers intend to stand pat. We are willing while the President is judge between the parties to accept what he believes is fair."

Temporary Settlement No Go.
Another leader said a temporary settlement of the major issues is unacceptable. The district chairmen met at the Bijou theatre early this afternoon before going to the White House.

Six hundred and forty members of the railroad Brotherhood's general committee began entering the White House at 2:45 and a large crowd witnessed their arrival.

A. B. Garretson, of the Conductors' brotherhood received a copy of President Wilson's proposal written in the White House on White House stationery. There were only 10 lines, but Garretson refused to disclose their

JOLLY AND FUN ON TAPIS AT GIBBON WHERE 1000 ARE

Gibbon, Oregon, Aug. 17th.—(Special).—Although the weather has been threatening and at times it seemed that it might be necessary to hunt shelter, the large crowd of O-W employees and their friends are celebrating today in a royal manner, the third annual employees picnic. The special train from La Grande carrying over 600 people arrived on time and the special from Rieth and Pendleton preceded it a few minutes. The latter train carried nearly 200 so that the crowd assembled in the picnic grounds numbers 800 by rail and the others which are made up of the people who live in this vicinity make it possible to say with safety that 1000 people are spending the day on the Gibbon picnic grounds.

An exceedingly jolly crowd they are. Everything any anything goes. No joke has been too practical and no job been too severe to put upon any member of the party.

Those coming in for the brunt of the jokes and fun are M. J. Buckley, J. F. Graham, J. D. Mathewson, Division Superintendent Bollons and Chief Dispatcher James F. Corbett. Everyone is out for fun and they are having it with a vengeance.

The official program including races of the fat men, sprinting matches for the stout women, nail-driving contest, pie-eating contests, tug of war and many other very entertaining features are being carried out regardless of threatening rain and weather.

Baskets were unloaded from the special train, evidencing that every family had provided for the journey of some length and those who did not happen to take lunch along were invited by friends to join in the family feast.

A. W. Pearley as one of the speakers pleased everyone with his remarks and his words showed plainly that he knows the railroad game from driving the spike to conversing with the president in times of need.

Judge Lowell of Pendleton in his usual delightful oratorical manner chased the rainbows of eloquence in a way that caused much applause.

One of the attractions from the time the decorated locomotive whistled out of town with the La Grande special was the Elks Band. Prof Haynes ordered music at intervals and on the road to Gibbon and serenaded each coach with as much ardor and loving kindness as any member of the band ever serenaded his lady love in the days ago. The popularity of the band and its music has been very pronounced.

When the special train was being prepared for departure this morning at 7:30, several hundred people shivered at the platform, and the band stiffly fingered their instruments. It rained right up to departing time and then quit for a while, commencing to drizzle with another drop of the mercury soon after the train left. In spite of the all night's rain, and cloudy, deep-fall weather 105 bought tickets. In addition to these purchased tickets, there were an even 500 passes used by employees and their families. En route more picnickers were picked up.

Engine Gaily Decorated.
That shopmen have a gift of decoration was seen today when the big special train locomotive lumbered out of the yards to be hooked on the train. The pilot and the cylinders were buried by large pine and fir boughs, and above the green hung Union Pacific and Safety First shields, set off at the head end of the boiler with tri-colored bunting. Along the hand rails, on pipes and wherever it would be neat and at-

contents. President Wilson met with the committee promptly at 3 o'clock and personally read the proposal.

More Presidents Coming
Five railway presidents left Chicago en route to Washington this afternoon in response to Mr. Wilson's call. President Ripley of the Santa Fe did not go.

COLUMBIA BASE SUFFERS.
Conferees Allow Six Million for Naval Basis Outside Oregon.

Washington, Aug. 17.—The House and senate conferees this afternoon agreed to retain a six million dollar appropriation to equip the navy yards at Puget Sound, Philadelphia, Norfolk, Boston, Portsmouth, Charlestown and New Orleans. The bill will be reported to both houses tomorrow and probably will be ready for the President's signature Friday or Saturday. The conferees eliminated a half million dollar provision for a Columbia river submarine and torpedo base.

The Senate without roll-call passed the naval bill as agreed to in conference earlier in the afternoon. The action was unexpected. It was not supposed the bill would be submitted before tomorrow.

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London, Aug. 17.—A leading hairdresser here said today that she has discovered that Englishwomen are developing "war wrinkles" on their faces. She declared that the little wrinkles around the mouths and eyes of her patrons are unlike any she ever saw before and have appeared only since the war began. They have, she said, entirely changed the average Englishwoman's expression.

Women Developing "War Wrinkles."

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MILITIA WOUNDS SELVES.

Dallas, Aug. 17.—Roy Gambrel, of militia hospital corps, has declared border militiamen are shooting themselves to get home. It is alleged 20 militiamen are at Marifa hospital with self-inflicted wounds in legs, feet and hands. Many shot off their fingers. One man has deserted four times. Gambrel said the idleness is deadly.

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ITALIAN THRUST TOWARD VIENNA SEEN IN ADVANCE FROM GORIZ.



War experts assert Trieste is only the first objective of the Italian armies that have taken Goritz and are swooping down on the Austrian city which Italians inhabit at the head of the Adriatic. The move, it is believed, also presages a threat in the direction of Vienna, simultaneous with the Russian advance over the Carpathians. Further pushing forward of the Italians in this sector would necessitate withdrawal of Austrian forces from part of the Tyrol frontier, where they are opposing Italian Alpine troops further west.

HUGHES SEEN BY THOUSANDS ALONG ROUTE

STOP AT ROSEBURG RESULTS IN BRIEF SPEECH TO A THOUSAND

DIME NOVELS, HISTORIES DIVERSION TO CANDIDATE

Many La Granders Hear Republican Candidate Address 120,000 People At Portland Last Evening—Address Teems With Constructive Program Outlined for Party.

Roseburg, Ore., Aug. 17.—C. E. Hughes on his way to San Francisco, briefly addressed and shook hands with a crowd of 1000 here. Only short stops are made en route to San Francisco. Hughes' recreation consists of reading alternately dime novels and heavy historical works. He purchased a fresh stock of detective stories at Portland last night. La Granders Hear Hughes Portland, Aug. 17.—Many La Grande politicians, office holders, Republican leaders and citizens in general who happened to be in Portland heard Mr. Hughes last night at the Ice Palace, and shook hands with him during the public reception in the day time. In his speech at the palace Mr. Hughes said in part:

"Our friends on the other side were almost ready to say we should abandon the Philippines. It was a matter of national honor. It was assumed obligations were there which we were bound to discharge. It is not so much a matter of self-interest, and we ought not to consider the suggestion of scuttling out of the Philippines. To leave them in a predicament which you know perfectly well without my describing it."

He repeated his protective tariff arguments. "I have the ambition to try and have an efficient American government worthy of America's best capacity and to make America's name honored throughout the world."

He said further: "Fellow citizens, you make me feel like an adopted son of Oregon. It is impossible for me adequately to express my appreciation of this generous welcome that you accord. From the moment of my arrival in Portland this morning I have had a succession of pleasure. It has been a privilege to me personally to see so many of the people of Portland. Then this afternoon, I had the opportunity of riding over that unsurpassed highway which is the greatest credit to this community. I know of nothing that surpasses it in this country or abroad, and I desire here to express profound appreciation of the public spirit of this community which developed a

BERT HUGHES LOSES CAR AFAR FROM HOME.
Cabin Near Which Hunters Left Auto Also Destroyed by Flames.

Fire originating from just how not being definitely known but probably from a camp fire, destroyed a new Grant owned by Bert Hughes, a sporting goods dealer of this city, and a cabin near which the car stood on the breaks of Meacham creek. Bert Hughes, Ed Hughes and Charles Owsley, all of this city were out hunting when the fire broke out and on their return found car, cabin and supplies in ashes. The man had to walk 18 miles back to La Grande. The car which was fresh from the factory, was fully insured by the La Grande Investment company.

BUY WAREHOUSE SITE.

Slater Estate Disposes of Building Occupied by Transfermen. Childs & Stiles, feed, storage and transfermen, yesterday evening purchased the building occupied by that firm from the Slater estate. This building adjoins the corner building at Fir and Jefferson.

In addition to purchasing this building the firm is building a concrete warehouse between Greenwood and Hemlock on the space between Jefferson and the railroad track, the proposed building being 16x30 feet. A permit for this building was allowed last evening.

KILLED IN WRECK

Milwaukee Freight Cars in Ditch and Several Injured

Seattle, Aug. 17.—Four Milwaukee freight cars were derailed at Lind Wash, last night. C. J. Graham of Sprague, Wash., was killed and C. D. Simpson and John Anderson were injured. The Milwaukee general office claimed the three men were riding a lumber car without permission.

Woodmen to Initiate

There will be important business and initiation at the Woodmen camp this evening and members are urged to get out and participate.

JAPAN BUILDING 26 SEA BATTLERS

ENORMOUS APPROPRIATIONS PROPOSED.

Diet May Develop Heated Contest Over Tremendous Expense Involved by Plans.

Tokio, Aug. 17.—Japan plans to improve her navy as fast or faster than does the United States build up its sea fighting machine. At least, that is the deduction made by the Japanese people from the just announced plan to spend 254,000,000 to 310,000,000 yen building new battlers in the next seven years. Exactly what the plan under consideration by the Finance Department of the government is, nobody knows, but according to the paper Jiji, usually a well informed publication, the outlay for "the ideal fleet" calls for about \$150,000,000. Other papers' estimates are a bit lower. A hot debate on the program is expected at the forthcoming session of the Diet because of the expense involved. The program is backed by navy leaders and also, it is said, by the ministers of marine and finance. Newspaper reports have it that Japan proposes to build three superdreadnought, two battlecruisers, 11 light cruisers, 10 destroyers and many U-boats.

NEW GRANT IS BURNED

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TEUTONS AT TWO FRONTS CHECK FOES

ON A THIRD FRONT REPORTS CONTRADICT EACH OTHER WITH SHARPNESS.

SMASH AGAINST TRIESTE COMES TO A STANDSTILL

Situation in Russia Seems To Be Changed With Russians Meeting Strong Obstacles at All Points—Bulgarian Status Also Reported from Conflicting Angles.

London, Aug. 17.—Allied captials admitted today Teutons counters have temporarily halted Russian and Italian offensives. Petrograd dispatches said Germans have checked General Brusiloff; Berlin has announced repulse of all Russian attacks.

Austrians have captured a dominating height in the Carpathians and Austrian reinforcements stopped Cadorna's Trieste advance.

Official German, French and British communiques are sharply contradictory regarding the Somme fight. Germans have admitted loss of five hundred yards of first line trenches south of Somme and it is claimed British and French were ejected from captured trenches north of the river. Gen. Haig's first report has announced the capture of Guillemont positions and 300 yards of German trenches.

Paris announced violent artillery on the Somme last night and said Germans have not attempted to recapture lost Terratin.

Bulgarian official reports are similarly conflicting. A delayed Bulgarian official statement said French attacks were repulsed on a wide front; Paris claimed successes.

CROSSINGS BOTHERSOME.

Gravel Between Tracks in Perry Vicinity Fools Drivers.

Two or three gravel crossings near Perry are reported to be bothersome to drivers. It has been observed that if an automobile is not driven squarely across the tracks, the gravel has a tendency of skidding, the machine and on one or two occasions cars have been stalled there even in the face of approaching trains or light engines. It is contended the gravel will eventually solidify into a solid cake and be very practical but at the present time, several have had trouble. It seems that if a car is sent squarely across the rails, the gravel between the steel has no ill effect, but if run at an angle, shoots the wheels aside. On one occasion a light engine had to stop to let an automobile party have more time to get off the tracks.

Gold Braid for Bullet Wounds.

London, Aug. 17.—Lance Corporal Riley, convalescing in Queen Mary's hospital from the effects of 51 bullet wounds suffered in the Big Push, was advised today that he will receive a piece of gold braid for each wound. Riley has lockjaw, too.

BIG WAREHOUSE FOR HOT LAKE

ALBERS BROTHERS OF PORTLAND BUILDERS.

Cato Johns Will Represent Firm in Wheat Buying Here.

Albers Brothers, Portland cereal makers and grain dealers, will construct a warehouse at the Hot Lake spur and there buy wheat from Grande Ronde farmers. Cato Johns of Haines will be manager, and probably will have a bookkeeper in the building in addition to his personal attentions. Orders have been issued by members of the Portland firm to rush construction of a warehouse 40x150 feet and this will be solely for storage purposes.

Mr. Johns was in La Grande last evening and verifies the report current yesterday. The Union, Ladd Canyon and other near-by wheat fields are looked upon as sources for the new warehouse's business.

GAS FRANCHISE APPLICATION PUT BEFORE CITY COMMISSION

Initial steps toward following out the circumscribed procedure of obtaining a franchise from the city of La Grande, were inaugurated last evening by the La Grande Gas company before the City commission with a view of being granted the right to operate a plant in this city. By provision of the city charter, the ordinance, which empowers the franchise, was up for information only last night, and must be published and public hearings allowed before it is put up for first reading or for final passage. Should amendments be made between the time of original publication and the time of passage, it must be republished, and the public will know exactly how the measure will read when put up for final passage. As a consequence of this, the ordinance will be discussed and fully thrashed out before publication. Objections which may develop after publication must be filed with the city recorder within 20 days and after five days' notice hearings will be granted on such objections. This is the first franchise application since the amendment of the charter.

The La Grande Gas company asks for right to operate and conduct its business, and is denied right to charge more than \$1.50 per thousand cubic feet of gas. The document in its present state does not specify the sum payable to the city for the franchise, and instead of naming an outright sum will probably be made to stipulate a percentage of business done as royalty for the franchise rights. By the ordinance the city commands quarterly reports of the gross business done, rights to inspect the books of the company and provides fine or imprisonment of officials for violation of the provisions of the franchise.

Numerous officials and stockholders in the company were present during the initial appearance of the franchise steps, and several weeks will likely elapse before all details of passing a franchise ordinance as required by the new charter have been complied with. There remain many essential points to have conclusive figures applied.