

La Grande Evening Observer

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

VOLUME XVI

LA GRANDE, OREGON. SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 1916.

NUMBER 52.

HURRICANE BLOWS DOWN CAMP TENTS

SOLDIERS ESCAPE AND MANY SEEK SAFETY AND SHELTER IN PRIVATE HOMES

TRUE STATUS ALONG STORM ZONE UNKNOWN

After Striking Trough Rio Grande Country Between Corpus Christi and Harlingen Storm Begins to Abate Somewhat—No word From Steamer Reported Wrecked.

Galveston, Aug. 19.—Meager reports indicated the hurricane which broke on the gulf yesterday is following the Rio Grande, striking the army camps. This morning it centered at Del Rio, 50 miles above Eagle Pass. No word of the fate of the steamer Fort Morgan, 34 hours overdue is at hand. A fishing fleet is missing. Every Corpus Christi beach cottage was wrecked and inhabitants fled to the high bluffs. Brownsville troops took refuge in city houses.

Storm Gradually Abates

San Antonio, Aug. 19.—Brownsville has wireless here that the hurricane slightly damaged the militia camps. Tents were blown away, but no casualties occurred. The center of the hurricane passed between Corpus Christi and Harlingen, 30 miles northwest of Brownsville and diminished greatly 50 miles northeast of Eagle Pass. The 30,000 militiamen are safe. The courseway connecting Corpus Christi with the mainland was badly damaged. Working men are stringing a cable and expect to establish communication this afternoon.

C. A. Gates, manager of the Rock Port Telephone office, walked 20 miles this morning and reported it was rumored there was "some loss of life" on the Gulf off Rock Port.

War Game of Atlantic Fleet Begins.

Newport, R. I., Aug. 19.—Hasty preparations were being completed by the Atlantic fleet today for the defense of the coast line against an enemy attack tomorrow. Battleships, destroyers, mine layers, submarines and fleet trains are at their posts and set to repel the invasion. At the first peep of Sunday morning's dawn the Atlantic fleet will attack and attempt to effect a landing with its theoretical army of invasion. It will be the first of this year's war games, worked out by the War College. The problem is: The reserve fleet, in command of Rear Admiral J. M. Helm, with the destroyer flotilla, will defend the approach to the vital parts of the coast from an attack by the present Atlantic fleet, with the submarines as auxiliaries. Rear Admiral Austin M. Knight will act as umpire on the new superdreadnought, Pennsylvania. Particular stress will be laid upon the value of battle cruisers as an attacking force against a slower but heavier armored defending squadron. The radius of action will be about that of last year's.

CHURCH PICNIC TOMORROW

Methodists of Island City, Alicel and La Grande to Gather

In spite of undecided in the matter yesterday, it has been agreed to hold the Methodist picnic at the park tomorrow as scheduled. At the usual Sunday-School hour Island City M. E. and M. E. Church and M. E. Church South Sunday schools of La Grande will meet at the park for their respective lessons. Alicel will conduct its Sunday School services at home and Rev. Richards will remain at Alicel to speak to those who cannot come in for the morning services at the park whereat Rev. Edwards of La Grande will speak. After the service, there will be a big basket picnic at which all visitors will join and the afternoon will be spent in as pleasant a way as possible. From 4 to 5 p. m. there will be vesper services, and from 5 to 6 Rev. Richards of Alicel will lead a joint Epworth league service, allowing all opportunity to return for union meetings in town at night.

F. D. Haisten will have his auto truck at the Methodist church at 9 o'clock and make regular trips to the park until about noon for 10 cents each way. Coffee will be buyable on the grounds.

WILSON VIGOROUSLY DEFENDS 8-HOUR DAY

UNWRITTEN LAW MURDER RECORDED

AUTHORITIES HAVE CONFLICT TO DECIDE.

Baker County Man Shot But Circumstances Not Clearly Developed.

Baker, Aug. 19.—(Special)—Baker county authorities are delving into conflicting stories regarding a murder yesterday afternoon near the upper Burnt river district in an effort to learn if J. F. Allen shot Lewis Butts in the Allen home or if he went to another ranch house and there killed Butts after the latter had ordered Allen away. The stories are conflicting.

Returning yesterday afternoon about 1 o'clock from a hunting trip and finding his young wife in the company of Lewis Butts, J. F. Allen, a young rancher of the upper Burnt river section, drew his heavy calibre rifle and although his wife jumped between them, shot and almost instantly killed Butts, when the latter made as if to attack him, the bullet striking the victim in the breast and also clipping the end from a finger of Mrs. Allen's right hand. After being wounded, Butts rushed outside the house, falling dead in the yard, presumably shot through the heart. Allen immediately proceeded to the home of O. C. Koontz, to take him to the county jail.

The story of the tragedy as outlined above was told by Allen to the officials after his arrival there. He was greatly in fear that friends of Butts would learn of the shooting and lynch him, and told the officers he had not breathed easy since the shooting until he arrived in jail. According to Allen, Butts has been paying his wife attention and had threatened to kill him. As he related the details, he returned unexpectedly from his hunting trip shortly after noon. Finding Butts there, he rushed at the latter, and although his wife threw herself between them, succeeded in putting his bullet in Butts' breast. After the shooting, he paid no attention to Butts, he said, but assisted his wife in bandaging the finger which was injured, which seemed to concern him more than the killing of Butts.

A somewhat different version of the tragedy was related last evening by a Hereford man who was in the city and more or less familiar with the details. He stated that the shooting did not take place in the Allen home, but at another residence, where Mrs. Allen was staying, having left her husband some days ago. He stated that Butts was in the house with Mrs. Allen, but that others were there also and that Allen came there and shot Butts after the latter had ordered him away from the place.

PICNIC LABOR DAY.

Committees Reporting Splendid Success with M. W. A. Affair.

Numerous committees having the county M. W. A. picnic in charge for Labor day at Riverside park report fine progress. Among the new things to come up for consideration at the meeting which is largely social, will be perfection of a county organization in which all camps of the county shall be affiliated. The program will begin prior to the noon hour and continue with novel features attending throughout the afternoon and evening. Each Woodman in the county, each Royal Neighbor and friends of such, are invited to be present. The public initiation which is entirely a new thing here will take place under the bending cottonwoods in the evening. Still another feature will be a competitive drill for foresters.

RATES FOR RACES.

O.-W. Issues Formal Statement Concerning Race Meet Plans.

Bulletins concerning the rates applicable to the Inter-Mountain Racing circuit meet here September 6-9 inclusive, were issued by the O.-W. this morning. Between Pendleton and Huntington and Joseph and La Grande a fare and a third rate will apply beginning September 5 to 9 with return limit of the 11, and no stop over en route.

AGAIN!

The band concert last evening was up to its usual high standard. Several hundred people turned out to hear the music. Those who had machines were comfortably seated during the concert, but only a small percentage of the crowd attended in machines. As a result a very large number of people were forced to stand during the concert, while— wooden horses bought and paid for by the city remained snugly stored in the city's warehouse free from wear and tear and handling.

ENGLISH HIT GERMANS WITH GREAT ENERGY

SIX-MILE FRONT SEES HARDEST ATTACK SINCE OFFENSIVE BEGAN

GERMANS HARRASSING THE FRENCH DURING DAY

Several Hundred Yards of Trench Taken by Englishmen While Germans Have Driven French Out of Trenches North of Somme Between Maurepas and Clerf.

London, Aug. 19.—General Haig has reported British have attacked on a six-mile front with the greatest blow since the offensive started and captured the western outskirts of Guillemes, 300 yards southeast of Moquet farm and seized several hundred yards of trenches in Forquet woods. The east lines are nearer Martin-puch where they captured trenches between Delville and Ginchy and occupied trenches in orchards north of Longueval.

Fresh Assaults Come.

London, Aug. 19.—Continuing their attack this afternoon, British gained a half mile between Ovilvers and Thierval and took hundreds of prisoners.

Berlin Verifies British.

Berlin, Aug. 19.—It is announced British and French have tremendously assaulted the German lines on a 12-mile front eastward from Ovilvers. British captured trenches on both sides of Guillemet.

A terrific battle has simultaneously developed northeast of Verdun where French artillery has destroyed trenches and Germans abandoned the wreckage. Elsewhere allied attacks were repulsed.

Home From Chicago

Mac Wood, manager of the Golden Rule company, has returned from a short business visit to Chicago. Mr. Wood was in Chicago 10 days ago when it was almost unbearably hot, but he found business generally good in the middlewestern states. After transacting business in "Chi" he went to Portland and he and Mrs. Wood motored to La Grande from there, arriving last evening.

BUTTER IS HIGHER

Retail Price Goes Up a Point At the Week's Close

Creamery butter retails today at 40 cents for the pound roll and 75 for the two-pound rolls. The advance became effective this morning.

TRAIN CRASHES INTO AUTO CONTAINING EUGENE FAMILY

Cottage Grove, Ore., Aug. 19.—A south-bound freight at the head of Bass creek canyon today smashed into an automobile containing R. A. Root, wife and five children of Eugene. Root's chest was crushed and his wife badly scalped. Two of the children sustained broken legs and ribs. The three youngest escaped uninjured.

COMMITTEE COMPLIMENTED

Letter Thanks Employees for Well Managed Picnic

Words expressing appreciation for the thoroughness of the entertainment and amusement provided at the Gibson picnic last Thursday, have been received by the committee headed by J. M. Burley, foreman of the locomotive department. One such letter is from the La Grande Commercial club. The letter says: "La Grande, Ore., Aug. 18. Mr. J. M. Burley, chairman O.-W. R. & N. Picnic Committee.—I had the pleasure of attending your third annual picnic, held at Gibson, yesterday, and I wish to congratulate you and all the members of the Safety First club, and the railroad officials for the efficient manner in which this picnic was conducted. The grounds and accommodations were the best I have ever seen; the onsets were pulled-off without any

SIDECAR STOLEN FROM C. ROBERTS

CHIEF DISPATCHER LOSES MACHINE

Thieves Pick Up Machine at Depot and Seemingly Make Safe Getaway

Charles Roberts, prominent Motor-club member and ex-president of the club, and night dispatcher for the O.-W. is minus his motorcycle and side car. The machine was stolen sometime between 2 and 4 a. m. this morning from the west end of the depot where Mr. Roberts is wont to leave it while at work nights. No trace has been developed this afternoon. Authorities anticipate the thieves made their get-away before daylight but also expect that the side car attachment will make it easy to detect when the thieves hit surrounding towns. The machine was a Harley-Davidson make with the license number AL-4. Naturally enough Mr. Roberts didn't retire at his usual hour this morning and is somewhat peeved, as it were.

MT. EMILY WEATHER BASE

Some Signs That Don't Fail—Survey Points Established

Mt. Emily, Aug. 19.—(Special)—Frank Perry, the fire warden, furnishes daily weather reports to the U. S. Weather Bureau. Perhaps some day Mt. Emily will come into its own as an ideal place for an observatory. As all our rains invariably come from the west during a large part of the year they may be seen coming for days ahead. Whenever the Cascade Mountains can be seen from the top of Mt. Emily there will be no general rain for a few days. It would often be worth something to farmers and fruit-raisers in the valley if they were sure of the weather for a day or two.

Guy Masengale of the U. S. Geologic Survey has been at work on top of Mt. Emily taking observations for the purpose of establishing definite points for others to start surveys from. He will likely be up here for several weeks.

CHASING THE HUCKLEBERRIES

Many People Go to Mt. Emily District—Careless With Fire

Mt. Emily, Aug. 19.—(Special)—The woods have been full of people who are after huckleberries. Among others who succeeded in gathering a large supply of the delicious berries were Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Stotts. They were accompanied by Mrs. Gregory of the La Grande hospital and were camped on the Blumenstein place for several days. The recent rains have laid the dust and will cause the rest of the huckleberries to be unusually large. The cold and the dampness were bad for the campers, however. Last night there was quite a frost up here and the rest of the berry crop may be badly injured. More can be told about it in a few days. Some parties have again been very careless about their campfires. They will be brought to realize the danger of such actions one of these days even if the fire warden have to obtain the help of detectives to discover the guilty parties.

PUBLIC HAS RIGHT TO EXPECT ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL SAYS WILSON

Washington, Aug. 19.—Up to a late hour today the railroad strike situation was still deadlocked, and the outstanding features of the negotiations was a sharp talk to the railroad presidents by President Wilson that many predict will bring at least a momentary peace-pact when his intentions are carried out.

The railroad presidents went to the White House this morning determined to refuse Wilson's proposition. They had previously prepared a statement refusing to yield from the principle of arbitration. They expected a new proposal from the chief executive when they went to see him, and they got it.

Voices Disapproval.

The presidents immediately told Mr. Wilson they had refused to relinquish their arbitration demands.

President Wilson replied with sharp reprimand to the officials declaring their attitude was unfair and impractical because the trainmen had repeatedly refused arbitration.

Statement is Sharp.

Mr. Wilson issued this statement: "I recommended a concession of an eight-hour day believing the concession is right. It should be adopted as a wage basis everywhere although actual work cannot be completed within eight hours. Railroads now having eight-hour days don't seem to be at a serious disadvantage compared to railroads having 10 hours as a basis. Only experience can make certain what rearrangements are fair."

Experience for Commission.

"The experience would be a definite guide to the Interstate Commercial commission in determining whether the railroads are entitled to higher freight rates on account of the increased wages or not."

"I therefore propose postponement of the trainmen's extra overtime pay demand. In the meantime I should seek congressional authority to appoint a small body of impartial men to investigate and report facts without recommendations. At such a time either party could terminate agreement, inviting inquiries for suggested adjustments."

President Wilson has summoned additional western railway presidents this afternoon.

SEARCH THOROUGHGOING

Travelers Into Denmark from Germany Stripped to the Skin

BY CARL W. ACKERMAN

Copenhagen, July 20.—(By mail).—Everyone who leaves German today via Warnemunde for Denmark is stripped to the skin. Ears, nose, teeth and toes are examined to see that no information or plans for the enemy are being carried out.

Reichstag members, wives of officials, correspondents and laborers are treated the same.

An American crossing the border yesterday remarked that before long it would be necessary for the inspection station to be built into the Baltic sea so that the travelers could undress on the German border, walk into the water and swim to a waiting station near the ferry and wait for the clothes and baggage to be examined and forwarded by canoe.

When travelers leave the train they enter a small wooden shed, resembling in many respects a temporary bath house at an American beach. Here the passports are taken away and shoved into an enclosed room where they are examined. The holders are given numbers.

When the passport of a traveler is finished he is called to another room where he is questioned about the objects of his journey. From here the wayfarer goes to a large room when the baggage is examined while detectives stand in front and in back to see that nothing is slipped by.

Every scrap of paper or card-board is taken away, even wrappings and paper lining to boxes. Cotton is removed from medicine bottles. Cigars are examined, some are cut open, chocolate in sealed packages is opened, the wrapping destroyed and half the chocolate broken up into bits to see that nothing is hidden.

Shoes with a new half-sole are opened. The searcher feels everything, examines canes to see whether they are hollow, opens umbrellas, holds every collar up to the light to see that nothing is written on the lining.

"After the baggage is examined," said an American woman who crossed the border yesterday, "the men and women are taken into separate compartments, about the size of a large individual bath house and there every bit of clothing is removed. Women are examined by women, men by men. The searcher went through every piece of my clothes, examined the

border of my underwear and held almost every inch of my clothes up to the light. Even the roses I wore were examined petal by petal, my wrist watch was opened back and front, so also my shoes, umbrella and hat.

"I had to take down my hair and my scalp was examined thoroughly—I suppose to see that I didn't have a map of Metz concealed thereon. Then my ears, teeth, hands, toes and back were examined, but fortunately I was not a suspicious woman because I was not washed in alcohol to see if there were any concealed maps drawn on my skin. The alcohol and a basin of water with towels were there and on a shelf I noticed a bottle of aromatic spirits of amonia and drinking water for those who might faint under examination, but in every way the women were courteous and gentle."

After that was over the passengers were permitted to board the ship but there they soon encountered a score of spies who watched for every move and who listened to every remark. The Germans take no chances with anyone.

Articles which are taken away during the examination are wrapped up before the eyes of the traveler and posted back to an address he gives of any friends in Berlin. Only suspicious articles are confiscated.

At present no rubber goods of any kind can be taken out no matter if it is the most necessary article. Not an ounce of rubber leaves Germany today.

CANOE VICTIM RECOVERED

Craft Upset Near Ross Island—Grapples Recover the Body

Portland, Aug. 19.—Municipal grapples have recovered the corpse of Stanton Bonbright, 21, of Los Angeles, who drowned last night in the Willamette between Hardtack and Ross Island, when his canoe upset.

BUY PARK LAND.

Enterprise Will Have Ample Wooded Area for City Park.

After much discussion, the city council Monday night took a highly important step, voted to buy land for a city park, relates the current issue of the Chief of Enterprise. The tract consists of about 37 acres along the river, on both sides of the stream, starting a few feet south of Fred Aft Wagner's house and stretching south nearly half a mile to the county road that runs east and west past W. L. McCormack's home.

Nearly all the land is wooded, parts of it being very thick with fir, balsam, pine and other trees. It has been the favorite picnic and camping ground for the people of the city for years. On its north boundary it almost touches the city limits, and is only two blocks south of Alamo street, the east and west thoroughfare that leads to the depot. So the park, at its nearest point, is two blocks farther from the court house than the depot is, placing it in easy walking distance from any part of town.

The land was bought of Mr. Wagner for \$3500; of which \$500 is to be paid down and the remainder, with interest at 6 per cent, in three annual payments, making these payments \$1120 each year. The city is to have immediate possession of the land.

Fighters Escort Endurance Swimmers

Nantasket, Mass., Aug.—Shark fighters armed with long knives accompanied the two long distance swimmers Charles Toth of Boston and Henry Sullivan of Lowell when they struck out from here on a 40-mile swimming race across Massachusetts Bay to Provincetown today. This is one of the longest races ever staged. The shark fighters are keeping searchlights constantly playing on the swimmers.

Conference of Catholic Workers Open

New York, Aug. 19.—The first conference of Catholic social and charitable workers ever held, opened here today. Rt. Rev. P. J. Bishop of Rockford, Ill., chairman of the social service commission of the American Federation of Catholic societies; Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Shahan, of Washington, president of the Catholic charity conference of the United States; Sir Joseph Fry, K. S. G., president of the German Roman Catholic Central Verein and John Paul Chow, president of the Catholic Press association of the United States, called the conference. This conference preceded the fifteenth annual convention of the American Federation of Catholic societies, which starts here tomorrow and continues until Aug. 23. The week is known as "Catholic Week in New York."