

La Grande Evening Observer

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

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ALLIES VICTORS ON 3 FRONTS BUT TEUTONS ADVANCE IN ROUMANIA

Three French Towns Taken and Fourth Being Enveloped.

London, Sept. 16.—Allies have advanced on three fronts, but have suffered reverses in southeastern Roumania. General Haig has reported the British center is within four miles of Bapaume. They hold Courcellette, Martinpuich and Fleres. They have halted their advance to await arrival of heavy artillery. Capture of 2800 prisoners is announced and they seized four field guns south of Amere. They razed trenches in many points and fought hand to hand in the glare of illuminating bombs. British armored motors smashed the defenses.

Germans abandoned heaps of corpses.

Town Is Levelled

The allies held Courcellette until artillery had levelled the city and then reorganized their ranks in a cemetery nearby. After that they fortified the ruined mill at Martinpuich.

Brilliant Charges Claimed

British charged down the slopes toward Bapaume with bloody bayonetting in Bouleaux woods. Rapid advances prevented Germans organizing counter attacks.

Germans At Thiepval

There are a few Germans in the Thiepval salient but British have flanked them. They seem doomed.

French have repulsed counters on both sides of the Somme and consolidated at new positions north of the Somme. They captured 400, and found 86 corpses in one trench.

Four Towns Taken

Salonika has reported that Russians, French and Servians drove Bulgarians 12 miles back and took four towns. They recaptured Florina, an important Greek city. One Bulgarian regiment lost 1500 men. Servians took 29 cannons.

Bulgars are retreating toward Monastir. British crossed the Struma under a heavy fire, and attacked Bulgarians in the upper and lower Gudi valley.

Rome has announced that Italians have resumed the Isonzo offensive and broke the Austrian line at several places. The battle is raging from Goritz to the sea. Austrian losses exceed 10,000. The extent of the Teuton victory in southeastern Roumania is unknown. Sofia announced the Russo-Roumanian forces have abandoned the whole district north of Dobrich, and are retreating rapidly toward the Danube. Bucharest has admitted the retreat.

Kaiser Himself Sends News

Berlin, Sept. 16.—(via Sayville)—The Kaiser has telegraphed the empress that central powers have severely defeated Russo-Roumanian forces. "Mackensen has wired me Bulgarian, Turkish and German troops have decisively beat Roumanians and Russians," said the telegram. Zaimis Declines Post.

London, Sept. 16.—An Athens dispatch has said Premier Zaimis has declined to attempt to re-organize the Greek cabinet. He suggested the king appoint ex-Premier Vanzelos to head the new ministry. Vanzelos leads the war party.

Losses Officially Admitted

Berlin, Sept. 16.—Officially it is admitted British forced Germans from Courcellette, Martinpuich and Fleres.

HOWARD TRULL STRICKEN

Sherry's Theatre Attache Critically Afflicted.

Coming, probably, as the aftermath of severe lifting last week when the family machine was fast in mud, Howard Trull, son of Mr. and Mrs. Trull, proprietors of Sherry's theatre, was last night stricken with heart trouble. For three hours his life was seriously imperiled and he is in a critical condition yet today. He has been afflicted with weakness of the heart for some time but of late has not been bothered with it to any degree. Having lifted strenuously on a mud-bound automobile last Friday, it is thought the weakness was again magnified. His parents and Mrs. Trull and many friends have been deeply concerned over his condition since the newest attack struck him. Mr. Trull is an attache at Sherry's theatre.

NEW TREASURER NAMED.

S. D. Crowe Succeeds A. A. Wenzel as Exchequer of Y. M. C. A.

With the retirement of A. A. Wenzel as a director and treasurer of the Y. M. C. A. board, has been necessitated the election of a new director and a treasurer. E. E. Kiddle, as announced yesterday, is the new director and S. D. Crowe has been named treasurer of the board.

Dipsea Marathon Run Today

San Francisco, Sept. 16.—The best distance runners in San Francisco and the bay region will participate in the twelfth annual Dipsea Marathon to be run tomorrow from Mill Valley to Willow camp. The Olympic club, which will stage the event, reports a record entry list for the cross-country classic. The race is a handicap affair open to registered athletes over 16.

Bank Statements Called.

Washington, Sept. 16.—The comptroller of the currency has issued a call of condition of National banks at the close of business September 12th.

LIFE TERM FOR MURDER

BENNETT THOMPSON GIVEN MAXIMUM SENTENCE.

"I Am Innocent" He Cries on Hearing Sentence Pronounced.

Hillsboro, Sept. 16.—Bennett Thompson has been sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of Mrs. Jennings and Ben Ristman. As the court rendered the sentence Thompson cried out "I am innocent."

Judge Bagley granted the defense 60 days to file a bill of exceptions.

MORE RECRUITS SOUGHT.

Two Weeks' Itinerary Arranged for Recruiting Office.

For a period of seven days beginning yesterday, Sergeant Raymond R. Riddell and Private William M. Dillon, detailed to the recruiting station in this city, will seek recruits for various arms of the army department at Elgin, Wallowa and Enterprise. When they have completed their trip to the towns named, they will return to La Grande and Captain Lee M. Clark and Corporal Earl T. Baker will go to Pendleton for a week. Funds for these two itineraries have been provided and unless the unexpected occurs, recruiting will continue for that length of time at least and maybe longer.

HONEST MAN IS FOUND.

Remittance Is Received to Cover an Employment Bureau Fee.

Old Diogenes could have snuffed out his light and gone back to bed contented had he run up against a man like Wirl Wallace, now a resident of Kansas. The story is this:

Five years ago Wirl Wallace, a young man, was in this country in search of work. He applied to the Bartmess employment agency and was sent out to the farm of Zach Chandler in Fruitdale where he was employed for a brief period but did not have enough left to pay the agency commission of two dollars. Today Mr. Chandler received a letter from Wallace who is now in Kansas with two dollars enclosed with instructions to pay the same to Mr. Bartmess.

RAILROAD OFFICIALS ON TOUR.

General Manager O'Brien Looking Over Situation in La Grande.

General Manager J. P. O'Brien and S. H. Haron, car superintendent, both of the O. W. R. & N., arrived last night in Mr. O'Brien's private car and they will remain in La Grande the most of the day looking over affairs in their respective departments.

Belgian Loan Unsatisfactory

Washington, Sept. 16.—Ambassador Bernstorff has notified the state department that Germany considers void the American bankers' loans to Belgium on Belgian railroad securities, unless the Kaiser's consent is previously obtained.

Mexican Negotiations Critical

New London, Sept. 16.—American commissioners have indicated the Mexican negotiations have reached a delicate point. They must ascertain whether Carranza is willing and able to patrol the border before withdrawing General Pershing and militia. The Americans do not anticipate a hitch.

Evening Observer Changes Hands Today

ON COMING TO LA GRANDE.

The new editor of the La Grande Evening Observer is glad to follow in the footsteps of Bruce Dennis. To build up the Observer to its present rank as one of the clean, well read, ably edited newspapers of the state is an achievement that any newspaper man could be proud of. Bruce Dennis did it. To take a prominent part in every movement for the betterment of La Grande and Union and Wallowa counties as he did shows public spirit and a fine sense of the responsibilities of citizenship. To play a leading part in the politics of the state during a most tumultuous period, to speak out frankly, and to strike for his cause fairly, and at the same time with strength and courage spells manhood. No doubt at times the readers of the Observer have not unanimously followed the opinions of the former editor. But the writer finds everywhere in La Grande marks of the respect in which his predecessor is held.

So in taking charge of the editorial policy of the Observer, the editor does so with the hope that he can win the same esteem that has come to Bruce Dennis as the reward of his six years' work. And it was hard work too. The life of an editor must be filled with a crusader's devotion. No vacation is more trying. Your smallest mistake is set up in large type that he who runs may read. The editor must at times speak boldly and frankly for the good of the public. Few men like to be criticised. Fathers of measures dislike to have their pets trampled upon. Seekers of political favor are notoriously thin-skinned. Many promoters of selfish interests are vexed when the editorial and news conduct of a paper are not speedily turned over to them at their impatience.

But through it all Bruce Dennis

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J. D. Meyers and Mrs. O. C. Leiter Are New Owners

The La Grande Evening Observer and Weekly Observer-Star was sold this week by Bruce Dennis to J. D. Meyers and Mrs. O. C. Leiter.

The option on the business and plant was taken on September 2 by Ray W. Logan, who negotiated the deal. The new owners are also proprietors of the Arcade theatre which they purchased on Jan. 1 from the Peoples Amusement company of Portland.

The change of ownership takes place today.

Mr. Dennis will be succeeded as editor and publisher by O. C. Leiter, who has resigned as city editor of the Oregon Journal to assume his new position. Mr. Leiter is one of the best known newspaper men in the state. He has lived in Portland since 1890, coming west when a boy from Wapakoneta. He attended school in Portland and later entered Stanford University from which institution he was graduated in 1899. He joined the staff of the Oregonian in June 1899, having prepared himself for newspaper work in college. In 1904 he was appointed city editor of the Oregonian, which post he held for 10 years. Since March 1915 he has been city editor of the Journal.

In Portland Mr. Leiter has been interested in civic affairs. He is president of the Portland Press club and was recently chairman of the Citizens Fourth of July committee. He is also a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

Five years ago he started the movement which led to the organization of the Oregon Irrigation Congress. In politics he has always been a Republican.

"The Observer will be independent in politics but will support Mr. Hughes," said Mr. Leiter today. "I picked La Grande as my future home after carefully studying the possibilities of many other cities in the state. I hope that we can keep the Observer in the front rank in which Mr. Dennis has placed it and continue to make it of service to the city and surrounding community, in whose future I have the greatest confidence."

FACULTY HIKES TO HIGH PEAK

VARIOUS MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION CHOSEN.

Return Late This Evening Contemplated—Lunch Served at Peak.

Cares and tribulations of the school master and mistress were ruthlessly tossed aside today when the high school faculty turned mazamas and hiked, rode or handwaggoned to Mt. Emily. The caravan left shortly after 7 o'clock this morning and while the schedule was not a fixed one, the plan is to return to La Grande before dark.

A majority rode in a carryall, while some rode horseback and others essayed a hiking task. At the peak this afternoon lunch was served.

Among the teachers and others making the trip were: Mr. and Mrs. McCullough, Mr. and Mrs. Hampton, Mr. and Mrs. Niles, Miss McMillan, Miss Koch, Mrs. Smith, Miss Howard, Miss Gunderson, Miss Kirtley, Miss Tozier, Miss Hindman, Mr. McNeil and Mr. Mason.

Plan Through Navigation Between Oswego, Lake Ontario and Hudson

Albany, Sept. 16.—Through navigation via the New York Barge Canal is being planned for Spring by State Engineer Fran Williams from Oswego to Lake Ontario and the Hudson river.

Williams is investigating today to get an idea of the cost. It was expected that the United States government would help in this work, but there is no present indication that it will.

Will Ship 16 Cars of Cattle.

Stockmen using the Chesnimus and Cold Springs range will ship 16 cars of cattle east next week, relates the Enterprise Chief. Prices are much better in the east now than in Portland and the ranchers propose to get the benefit of this. J. H. Tippet was in town the first of the week to get telegraphic advices on market conditions.

The shippers will be Henry Haas, C. F. Graves, S. T. Tippet & Sons, Roy Favor, Jake Marks, W. P. Warnock, Sam Litch and others. There is some competition among the men who want to make the trip to Chicago and Judge Tippet, for one, intends to be among those who go.

Operator On Vacation

Cage Matott, western Union operator, leaves tomorrow for Portland to enjoy a two weeks' vacation after a strenuous year at the keys of the company in this city.

HEART TO HEART.

Today the Evening Observer enters the homes of La Grande and the homes of Union and Wallowa counties under new ownership and new management.

We have sold the paper, plant, good will and subscription list to Mrs. O. C. Leiter and Mr. J. D. Meyers, who will have complete control from this date. All accounts due the Observer for advertising, job printing and legal advertising to September 15th are payable to us. The subscription accounts due are payable to the new owners, as is also all business of the paper after September 15th.

In disposing of the Observer it seems almost like selling a member of our family. For over six years we have entered nearly every home in La Grande daily except on Sunday; we have carried to the fireside and family circle news of the outside world, of Oregon and of our local community in the very best way we

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DEATH CLAIMS ANNIE HOWE

PRESIDENT CANCELS SPEAKING TOURS

Several Relatives of the Deceased at the Bedside

New London, Sept. 16.—Mrs. Annie Howe, the president's only sister, died this morning of peritonitis. Many relatives were at the bedside and President Wilson was immediately notified.

Speaking Dates Cancelled

Asbury Park, Sept. 16.—President Wilson has received the news and at once cancelled his engagement to address the National Life Insurance underwriters at St. Louis, September 20. He probably will go to South Carolina to attend the funeral.

STUDIES RED FISH.

Possibilities of Large Hatchery at Wallowa Lake Cited.

Willis H. Rich, scientific assistant U. S. Bureau of Fisheries, left Tuesday to resume his classes at Stanford University after having spent the past week here experimenting with blue-back salmon, known as red fish, of which there are 15,000 in the small feeding ponds above the lake according to the Joseph Herald which goes on to say:

The eggs of these fish were brought from Alaska and hatched at Bonneville last spring. Realizing Wallowa Lake as an ideal home for this species, the state officials sent the above number here and they are being cared for by M. V. Knight and Theron Sutton, who in recompensation for their work are to receive several thousand trout from the state which they will raise on a commercial basis. The first shipment of their fish came Tuesday.

Mr. Rich spent his time marking the young salmon, which consisted of clipping certain fins; before they are released in the lake. This system is to determine how many of the fish return to salt water after they acquire their growth. Most of them which do will undoubtedly be caught in the Columbia, as there is a general shortage of this species in the river and every effort is to catch them. Mr. Rich stated that if Wallowa Lake was found to be the ideal spawning grounds for red fish a large hatchery would probably be established in this section later. He also stated that the Yank, found only in Wallowa Lake and one or two lakes in Washington, is a sub-species of the red fish otherwise known as a land-locked blue-back.

The experiment of Messrs. Knight and Sutton will be watched with interest by Wallowa county people as it is the first incident in the history of the county to raise trout on a large commercial basis. These gentlemen are enlarging their feeding ponds to accommodate many thousands of young trout and when completed will have a model outdoor fish hatchery. The food for the young trout is a fine mixture of cornmeal and liver, which is fed every day in large quantities.

Les D'Arcy Will Not Go To War

Melbourne, Australia, Sept. 16.—Les D'Arcy, the Australian middle-weight fighter, conqueror of McGorty and Clabby, won't go to war just yet, it is learned today. Les tossed up his fighting contracts recently and proclaimed himself ready for the ranks, but his mother put her foot down on the plan. That ended it. Les won't join. Meantime he'll argue with Mother.

3 TEACHERS ADMIT THEIR GUILT; FINED

MR. AND MRS. HENLINE AND WELPER CASES DISPOSED OF IN COURT.

MOTHER'S LETTER PLAYS PART IN SENTENCES

Former La Granders Admit Guilt Through Attorneys and Small Fines Imposed—Mother of Girl Believes Welper Really Loved Her Daughter.

In the circuit court this morning, Troy Welper, Ralph Henline and Lois Henline, represented by their attorneys, W. B. Sargent and R. J. Green, entered a plea of guilty to the grand jury indictment charging them with taking away a female, a high school girl of 15 years of this city, from the custody of her mother without parental consent for the purpose of marriage. The attorneys for the defendants presented to the judge a letter from the mother of the girl stating she believed Welper really loved her daughter. After considerable discussion by the attorneys, Judge Knowles imposed a fine of \$150 on each of the men and \$100 on Lois Henline, wife of defendant Ralph Henline. The fines were immediately paid.

The indictment charged that defendants used means of "persuasion, entreaty, advice, flattery, promise, artifice, cajolery and other means unknown" to take away the girl in question, at the close of school last Spring. The three defendants are now in the east. Mr. Welper teaching school in Illinois and it is understood Mr. and Mrs. Henline is also teaching in the midwest.

The two men in the case were teachers in La Grande high school last year, and were arrested when about to make their escape and were charged with conspiracy to take the 15 year old girl out of the state so that Welper could marry her. The arrest was made just as the girl had stepped in an automobile en route to Hot Lake. Tickets had been purchased for the four and the automobile previously arranged for by Mr. Welper it was brought out at the preliminary hearing. A few minutes after the girl was intercepted, Welper was apprehended on the road to Hot Lake, where, apparently he was to have met the others.

ZUNDELL BABY DEAD.

After Long Illness Little One Is Called by Death.

Earl Holt Zundell, 15-months old son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Zundell, died this morning after a long illness. The little one was operated upon early in the summer and showed signs of rapid recovery but never became wholly well, and lately commenced to grow weaker again. It was necessary at the time of the operation to remove liberal portions of the liver, this being done to cheat the inroads of death at that time. The operation was a most unusual one.

Holt's funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon from the family residence, No. 909 M avenue. The bereaved family has the sympathy of a large circle of friends who grieve with them at the loss of their baby boy.

EXPLOSION KILLS FOUR.

Bodies Horribly Mutilated by Concussion in Ammonia Plant.

Pittsburg, Sept. 16.—At least four were killed and many hurt in an explosion which wrecked the Aetna Chemical company ammonia crystallizing plant. The victims were torn to fragments and the bodies hurled 100 feet.

Employees have flatly declared over 20 were killed. One man said he entered the wrecked building and counted 11 corpses and fragments of eight others.

More Unions Striking

New York, Sept. 16.—Trolley strikers expect 73,000 other workers to strike before Monday. 20,000 longshoremen and boatmen are scheduled to quit first and 25,000 machinists are next.

Frank Pierce, Jr., Arraigned

Sheriff Hug has brought Frank Pierce, Jr., from Baker where he was taken in a raid for whiskey, and has been arraigned in justice court at Union on a charge of bootlegging at Union during the stock show. He will be tried Tuesday. The Baker case is still hanging fire.