

La Grande Evening Observer

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REAL NEED OF BORDER PATROL SAID TO EXIST

PRESIDENT WILSON GIVES PUBLICITY TO WAR DEPARTMENT POLICIES

MEXICAN AGGRESSION A POSSIBILITY EVEN NOW

President Expresses Purpose of Relieving Strain of Patrolling Border So That Each Unit May Do Its Part and Not Overembarrass Any Relief Expected.

Asbury Park, Oct. 14.—(United Press)—President Wilson today wrote to Governor Whitman declaring Northern Mexico conditions are improving. He predicted the government soon will relieve border militiamen.

"The war department policy distributes the border guard burden over the entire militia. Frequently it relieves units, to send them home and dispatch other regiments from camps to border. This minimizes the sacrifice each guardsman makes. We deeply realize the inconvenience the recent emergency has caused militiamen.

"Unhappily, an emergency still exists and military authorities advise me withdrawal of militia from the border might result in fresh Mexican aggressions.

"The militia is being used to repel invasion. For the near future we may be able to further relieve embarrasments under which organized militia regiments necessarily and naturally suffer.

"We would be sorry to have anybody suppose the militia is being retained at the border for the purpose of completing military training. They are preserving the American frontier from aggression."

PERSONAL MENTION

J. L. Flanagan, of the Great Western Smelting and Refining Co., of Seattle, is in La Grande today on business.

Mrs. Warren Smith of Portland, who has been visiting in the east passed through the city today en route home and was met at the train by her cousin Mrs. J. M. McCall, Mrs. Florence Bacon and Mrs. U. G. Couch.

Willard Couch came in from Ladd Canyon today to deliver his butter and eggs to his many customers, but he came in a new Franklin, instead of with the span of bays which have hauled him to town every Saturday to these many days. Mr. Couch does fairly well with the new contrivance especially since he is a neophyte at the steering wheel. He admits that he may have to hitch up the bays occasionally, but weather permitting he will be a motor car driver hereafter.

Choral Club Rehearsal Sunday.

Last evening supporters of the Y. M. C. A. choral society met at the lobby to talk over the plans. Although a short rehearsal was held yesterday, the first real rehearsal will not be held until tomorrow afternoon after the Dr. Wirt lecture. This will be about 4 o'clock. Any one interested in a men's chorus, having in mind substantial voice culture, and presentation of a few programs during the winter, should attend this meeting tomorrow at which time all its details and purposes will be explained.

The want of a men's choral society has long been felt, it is contended, and the Y. M. C. A. club hopes to fill that want. It can use as many voices as can be mustered together.

Joseph Price, well known musician, has been chosen leader and director.

Knights Pythias Meeting Monday.

Baker, Oct. 14.—(Special)—Members of Gauntlet lodge No. 8, Knights of Pythias, are planning a big time for next Monday evening, when Past Grand Chancellor Otis Patterson of Canyon City will be the guest of honor.

The regular lodge meeting will be the first event on the program and this will be featured by the initiation of some candidates and some good stunts are planned for the "side degree," which will be conferred on the luckless Neophytes. Later a big banquet will be served with numerous addresses and toasts, with the Past Grand Chancellor as the principal speaker.

GEORGIA'S CROP WILL BE GOOD

Notwithstanding that the boll weevil has made inroads on the cotton crop of the South, Georgia is enjoying a rather bountiful harvest of her staple crop, and growers are being paid the fancy price of 15 cents, according to Chas. H. Hillhouse, a Sylvestor, Ga., banker who is in La Grande today visiting relatives and who contemplates locating in Oregon. "Georgia is prosperous" said Mr. Hillhouse in discussing the South, "and of course there will be a scattering vote here and there for the Republican ticket," he remarked switching his conversation to politics. Mr. Hillhouse visited in La Grande several years ago and became so enamored of the climate that he has yearned to come back. His health is not of the best and he believes Oregon is just exactly the place for him and his wife.

The boll weevil, he says, is being combatted by planting early varieties and hurrying maturity ahead of the time when the pest makes its appearance.

NEW U-BOAT NOT LOCATED

STORY ISSUED YESTERDAY APPEARS TO BE WITHOUT FOUNDATION.

Search for Supposed Submarine Base On Atlantic Coast Continues Without Any Result.

Boston, Oct. 14.—(Special).—The Charleston radio station has contradicted the report a German submarine is chasing an unidentified Dutch steamer off Massachusetts. There is no trace of such a submarine.

American destroyers are still searching for a naval base and British destroyers are cruising between Capes May and Ann, hunting the raider.

Raider Seen Yesterday

Boston, Oct. 14.—(Special).—An unidentified submarine off the New England coast was reported by the steamship Bovic yesterday evening, at a time when the steamship lane to Europe was dotted with munitions-laden ships just released from the embargo placed on their movements after the German submarine raid off Nantucket Sunday. The Bovic, bound from Manchester, England for New York, did not report the submarine's nationality but gave its position when sighted at 8 yesterday morning as 200 miles east of New York and not far from the scene of submarine activities Sunday.

The report of a strange submarine is coincident with the announcement that a fleet of British cruisers was destroyed off the coast and virtually the entire destroyer flotilla of the American Atlantic fleet on neutrality duty. In the light of today's development, foundation for the rumor is doubted.

RELATIVE DIES IN FRANCE

Soldier Transferred to Hospital Succumbs to Tonsillitis.

Mrs. P. Patten of this city has received word through the Edmonton, Alberta Journal that a near relative has died in a French war hospital. The Canadian paper says of the demise of the Canadian, who was Mrs. Patten's nephew:

Pte. Percy George Chapman, No. 436,970, of the 49th Battalion, died Sept. 26 of tonsillitis at No. 18 general hospital, Camerics, France. This word was received by telegram to his mother, Mrs. Alex. Munro, 11328 86th street, Edmonton, Alberta. Pte. Chapman enlisted with the 51st Battalion February 22, 1915, and left Carce camp Sept. 6 for overseas with the second draft. On arriving in England, he was transferred to the 49th Battalion and had been at the front in the firing line ever since. He was a bomb-thrower, and was twice wounded, and later was attached to the machine gun section. He was born in Meriden, Iowa October 23, 1894. His father was a railroad man and was killed while on duty. Percy was then just five years old and has always been with his mother, except two years spent at school in Moncton, N. B., where he made his home with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Chapman. He then took up the plumbing trade with J. A. McKenzie, 10644 Namayo avenue, and was serving his time when he enlisted. He was a nephew of Percy Chapman, conductor of the C. N. R., and is survived by his mother, his stepfather and a little brother.

Ministers Don't Shirk

London, Oct. 13.—One thousand ministers to 4,000,000 people or one to 4,000 is none too many to keep up spiritual life, visit the sick conduct intercession services, the Bishop of London told an audience in reply to the charge that ministers were shirking field duty.

ASSESSED VALUATION HIGHER

Summary of Assessment Roll of Union County, Oregon, 1916.	
159,167 Acres Tillable Land	\$ 6,366,580.00
310,311 Acres Timber Land	1,209,895.00
253,454 Acres Non-Tillable Land	1,038,070.00
Imp. on Deeded or Pat. Land	871,845.00
Town and City Lots	1,360,070.00
Imp. on Town and City Lots	1,943,800.00
Imp. on Land not Deeded or Pat.	29,295.00
Loggings Roads and Rolling Stock	37,500.00
Stationary Engines and Manf. Machinery	211,455.00
Merchandise and Stock in Trade	758,700.00
Farm Imp., Wagons, Automobiles, etc.	324,005.00
Money, Notes and Accounts	392,920.00
Shares of Stock	335,115.00
Hotel Furniture	15,520.00
10,159 Horses and Mules	606,180.00
17,955 Cattle	546,840.00
9,414 Sheep and Goats	33,565.00
8,709 Swine	45,005.00
Total Value Taxable Property 1916	\$16,127,160.00
Total Value Taxable Property 1915	16,067,975.00
Increase for 1916	\$ 59,185.00

NOTE—The above does not include Public Utilities.

The summary of the 1916 assessment roll, which has just been completed by Assessor U. G. Couch and Deputy R. C. Alexander, and appears above, shows a small increase over the 1915 summary, which is accounted for largely by the increase in acreage of tillable and timber land, some in merchandise, cattle, and sheep. Some loss is noted in fruit and non-tillable land, and swine, other items being about the same as last year.

From the tax commissioners' investigations they find Union county is assessed about on an average with the other counties of this state—some lower and some higher. Lincoln county being the highest, and Yam-

hill the lowest. However, Yamhill county (by reason of a low valuation) does not escape her just portion of state taxes, and public utilities in that county are assessed on the same percentage as other property, neither is Lincoln county penalized (by reason of a high valuation) for her portion of state taxes, and the assessment of public utilities is based on the way other property in that county is assessed. Therefore by reason of one county being assessed lower than another does not give the county any advantage over another county that is assessed higher, as to her portion of state taxes, or the assessing of public utilities.

BIG VERDICT FOR TOM MORGAN

Late this afternoon a jury in the circuit court returned a verdict in favor of Thomas Morgan, and against James Johns of Pendleton for \$5800 on account of illegal damages sued for by Morgan who alleged he entrusted his share of stock in a corporation known as Union County Farm company to Mr. Johns for the purpose of allowing Johns to secure \$1300 for Morgan and used the stock as collateral security, but that, so Morgan claimed, Johns sold the stock and put it out of his reach. Johns claimed that Morgan had sold the

stock outright to John G. Johns, a brother of the defendant, and that Morgan had an option for a short time to repurchase the stock. Morgan sued for \$9000. The jury was out five hours.

Caster, Forsstrom-Hall Case On. Caster and Forsstrom's litigation with J. E. Hall this afternoon continued to occupy the attention of circuit court.

Postponement of sentence upon Grover alias Harlan convicted of polygamy, was again suggested this morning.

TWO DELEGATES GO EAST TONIGHT

Representing Oregon Eastern Star, and being one of 53 matrons who guide the destinies of the biggest woman's order in the world, Mrs. Dora B. Schilke leaves tonight for Chicago where she will remain while her husband Fred G. Schilke represents the O. W. at the Traveling Engineers' convention which takes up there soon. Their daughter Frederica goes with them. After staying in Chicago two weeks the tourists will go to St. Louis to attend the world convention of Eastern Star chieftains. The Oregon delegation will take along 300 of Hood River's best apples separately wrapped in Eastern Star wrappers. Portland seeks the next world convention and this is a means toward the end. After the St. Louis convolve the travelers will swing down to Los Angeles to visit relatives.

War Bulletins

London, Oct. 14.—(United Press).—A Rome wireless has said Austrians lost 28,000 men in a two-day battle on the Carso Plateau. Battling is not diminished.

Germans Win and Lose

Paris, Oct. 14.—(United Press).—Germans have reoccupied Abaincourt village, south of the Somme, and captured trenches northwest of the city. French immediately countered and ousted the Germans.

BAPTISTS GO TO ELGIN. Grandma Lash, 95, Among Those Attending Meeting Today.

To be 95 years of age, and vigorous enough to go to Elgin by train today to attend communion services at the Primitive Baptist meeting there today was the feat of Grandma Lash this morning. She was real spry in climbing on the train with scarcely a lifting from the brakeman. Others in the party included Mrs. Gutridge, Mrs. E. W. Allen, Miss Frances Devell, and others.

Alliance Meeting Called.

President J. C. Henry of the Hughes Alliance branch, has called a meeting of the alliance for Monday evening to transact business. The session will be held in the City hall.

ODD FELLOWS TO MEET IDAHO MAN

A special train carrying the Grand lodge of Idaho Odd Fellows will pass through La Grande tomorrow at 2 o'clock p. m. La Grande Odd Fellows have been called to meet at their lodge at 1 o'clock to give the visiting brethren fraternal greeting. A. W. Worstell, secretary of the lodge, issues a statement today calling out the members at the hour named. The Idaho lodgemen will be traveling toward Couer de 'Alene.

TELEGRAPH WIRES DAMAGED.

Fallen Tree Does Damage to Western Union service During Day.

Telegraphic business, news and commercial, was at a complete standstill for a time today noon and was moved westward via Salt Lake with difficulty for a considerable time during the afternoon of today. The Observer's quota of telegraph news is therefore curtailed.

PAPER FAMINE HITS DAILIES

SMALL DAILIES AND WEEKLIES AT MERCY OF THE MANUFACTURER THESE DAYS.

Most Authorities Believe Increased Rate Is Sure—Paper 100 Per Cent More, Ad Rates Unchanged.

New York, Oct. 14.—(Special).—The prevailing high price of news print paper, caused, the manufacturers claim, by the shortage, has worked tremendous hardships on the publishers of weeklies and small dailies. In comparison with the volume of business these hardships have proved a more severe blow to the small publisher than to the owners of the big dailies in the large cities.

The larger papers are supplied on contracts—that is, they agree with the manufacturer to use a given amount in a given time at a fixed price. This contract binds the publisher to use the fixed amount of paper and likewise binds the manufacturer to keep a supply on hand large enough to meet the daily wants.

This is not the case with the publisher who buys in small lots. Many have found themselves without enough paper to print an edition on. The manufacturers have the power to fix the price for the small publisher as they see fit, increasing it without notice and warning him that the shortage may make it impossible further to supply the paper at the same rates. Thus the country editor finds himself entirely in the hands of the paper manufacturers.

One year ago the price of news print paper was \$2.35 per hundredweight. Today it is \$5.30 per hundredweight, and the publisher is lucky to get his supply even at this price. The latter figure is for paper in large quantities, and the publisher who buys in small lots is forced to pay even a higher price.

Must Increase Advertising Rates.

With the cost of news print doubled and corresponding increases in the cost of other materials that are used in the newspaper or job office, the small publisher has found it necessary to increase his revenue. A great many papers have solved this question by increasing their subscription and advertising rates.

While all papers have not advanced the price of advertising, many of them have, and if the high prices continue, and there is nothing to lead one to believe otherwise, it will be absolutely necessary for all papers to advance their space rates or face failure. The smaller publisher was on the threshold of a most profitable era. The national advertisers have been brought to a realization of the value of space in the home paper circulated in the rural districts and are beginning to buy liberally.

Many of the weekly newspapers have partly solved the problem by increasing their subscription rates likewise. Before the increase in the price of news print they found it fairly profitable to sell their papers for \$1 a year. A great many have already increased the price to \$1.50 per year, and each week finds others raising their rates.

Subscription Rates Increased. The majority of weekly publishers hope, but are not convinced, that by increasing the subscription rate 50 per cent they can pay 100 per cent more for their paper supply.

This is not true of the small daily. The subscription rates for dailies vary from \$3 per year to \$5 and in some instances \$6. It is this publisher who has been hit hardest by the phenomenal rise in the price of news print. The publisher of the daily did not find himself in a position to increase his subscription rates in proportion to the increase in the price of paper. And

EXPERTS STUDY BULK METHODS OF SHIPMENTS

FARMERS OF WHEAT BELTS INTERVIEWED TO LEARN OPINIONS ON BULK WHEAT

GOVERNMENT WILL HELP SUPPLY COST FIGURES

Union County Farmers Have Chance to Express Opinions and Portland Docks' Representative Promises Adequate Facilities When Needed.

Public pulse concerning bulk shipment of wheat from interior points to tidewater, is being sounded out in Eastern Oregon by G. B. Hegardt, engineer for the Public Docks commission at Portland, and G. L. Hurd for O. A. C. They have been in the Colfax, Palouse and other wheat belts of Washington and are spending the week-end in La Grande. The proposition of bulk shipment of wheat, tremendous and radical in its nature compared to present methods, as it is, has been discussed both at tidewater and in the interior for some time.

The two men came to Union county several weeks after County Agriculturalist Paul Spillman and Mr. Hurd first took up by circular letters to Grande Ronde farmers the matter of gaining public opinion here.

Some time ago the city of Portland spent \$2,500,000 building public docks, and stand ready, Mr. Hegardt says, to spend what is needed to provide Portland tidewater facilities to handle interior wheat shipments, provided the time is ripe.

About 18 months ago plans were drawn at Portland for a million and a quarter public elevator, suited for bulk shipments, but it was at that time thought conditions were not ripe for the change. Since then there has been a material turn in public opinion in favor of bulk shipments. Just recently 35 elevators have been built in the Columbia basin and the matter has been seriously considered further in the interior. Assured that Portland will provide adequate docking facilities and elevators when the interior farmers are ready, the question is now up to them in a great extent.

Just what the sentiment in this county is will not be known until the circular letter campaign is completed, but it is understood the change is wanted, generally speaking.

Those feeling out public sentiment are free to admit that the change is a radical one. Headers must be revised somewhat, grain wagons changed to handle bulk instead of sacks, instead of storing wheat in flat warehouses at depots, as is now the practice, grain must be stored in individual elevators and the shipping facilities changed; grain cars must be used instead of any sort of rolling stock now drafted to handle wheat sacks; at tidewater or metropolis, the facilities must be entirely rearranged to meet the new conditions.

Both Mr. Hurd and Mr. Hegardt say they find a rapid change toward bulk shipment but say that so radical a change must necessarily come slowly. Yet in the face of the complete upsetting of grain handling methods now in vogue, farmers are anxious to avoid buying sacks, and if they can see any way to save money and handling expense, they will willingly meet the necessary initial outlay.

Mr. Hurd represents the government and O. A. C. surveys to find the cost of each method, to learn faults and merits of each and to have this information published. The party is meeting Union county farmers at Cove and elsewhere today.

Union Couple Married. Arch Burford and Lula Davis, two well-known and popular Union people were married at the Methodist parsonage today by Rev. Chas. A. Edwards. Mr. and Mrs. Hagerty witnessed the ceremony.

today the small dailies are wrestling with the question, at their wits' end to know which way to turn.

Many have slightly increased their subscription rates, and without exception all have cut down the number of copies printed. All deadheads have been eliminated; many of the exchanges have been cut off; those subscribers who did not pay in advance have been dropped from the list. And by practicing these economies the amount of paper used has been decreased to a large extent.

There is nothing to cause the publisher to think that immediate relief is in sight. The editors are fighting their battles as best they can and will win because the country press is the greatest educational asset that the nation possesses today. Upon the country press depends largely the industrial, commercial, financial and social progress of the nation.