

INSTITUTE'S ORGANIZATION MAY BE REVAMPED

BANDIT GANG BUTCHERS AND ROBS MEXICANS

ONE GERMAN BEAT INSENSIBLE BY ATTACKING FORCES NEAR THE BORDER LINE

SOLDIERS SHOT BEFORE HORRIFIED PASSENGERS

Meagre Reports of the Butchery Reaches Authorities and Trainload of Soldiers Rushes to the Chase—Many Passengers Stripped—All Lined Up and Robbed.

El Paso, Nov. 2.—(United Press)—Consul Sorino Bravo has announced 200 Villistas held up a Mexican Central Railway train at Laguna and butchered in cold blood 28 Carranzistas, forming an escort. They lined up and robbed 300 passengers and beat a German subject senseless. Laguna is 150 miles straight south of the border. An official bulletin giving meagre details of the butchery arrived this morning. Bandit Chiefs Murgua and Quesado led the Villistas. They are noted for their cruelty. They stripped some of the passengers and executed the soldiers before the eyes of the horrified passengers. Dispatches said Dr. Haffner, a German physician, is suffering severe wounds as the result of rifle butt blows. The bandits looted the express cars. A military train of 400 Carranzistas was rushed from Chihuahua and expects to smash the raiders.

Mass Meeting On Tuesday Next Week

Question of City Commissionership to Come Up At That Time—Night Deemed Suited for Such a Meeting.

In order that there may be as big an attendance out as it is possible to recruit, the mass meeting to discuss a candidate for City Commissionership will be held Tuesday evening of next week. It had first been set down for Friday of this week, but Tuesday is deemed a more propitious day. On that occasion business men and citizens in general will be about town to get election returns, and can hold their meeting early and then drift over to returns headquarters. With but one commissioner to elect the municipal election is nevertheless important. It is proposed to have voters meet to discuss candidates and bring the campaign to a focus. While the election is not until December, leaders for the mass meeting feel that the subject should be given consideration now. Haworth May Be Candidate. While S. R. Haworth, serving the unexpired term of John Gardner as city commissioner, has not definitely decided the question, it is rumored that he will be a candidate for the office. It is Mr. Haworth's place on the commission that the public will fill by municipal vote.

Protest Against Appointment. Portland, Nov. 2.—(Special)—A telegram has been sent to the secretary of war protesting against the appointment of C. U. Gantenbein as colonel in the army reserve.

Try the Observer Want Advs.

Have you a house for rent? Do you want a situation? Have you a room to rent? Have you anything to trade? Try a want adv. in The Observer, the newspaper which reaches the homes of the people of La Grande and Union and Wallawa Counties.

Imbler's Big Crop Bringing In Riches

Remarkable Crop of Apples at Good Prices Swells Bank Accounts—Shortage of Help a Drawback.

Imbler, Nov. 2.—(Special)—After several years of disappointment in regard to crop conditions or poor markets, the apple growers of this vicinity are this season coming into their own. The yield is good in both quantity and quality, while prices are far above the average. Ninety cents to one dollar for ordinary "shuffle" pack is being offered on board cars in Imbler while fancy packed are going still higher. Help has been at a premium, partly owing to the harvesting of the bumper potato crop, but now the "spuds" are practically all housed or shipped out and there will be more help available. Box making and packing are in full swing and the burg in the midst of its annual business speed-up. With booming wheat and "spud" prices and the apple receipts, deposits at the local bank are on the up grade, and business is booming.

Weather Forecast. Tonight and Friday unsettled. Occasional rain. Southwest wind.

INSTITUTE SIDELIGHTS.

The teachers are slow to register. Only 300 have attended to this duty.

The Resolutions committee is about the busiest sub-body of the whole institute.

Tomorrow evening the teachers return home; the Wallawa delegation by special train and the others by regular trains.

Yesterday the East-end section of the teachers voted in a decorous manner and Wilson got 75 votes to Hughes' 37.

A blackboard in the lobby carries a straw vote on which a mischievous Wilsonite, one teacher testified this morning, voted great gobs of votes at a turn. For a time the voting was serious but is now more or less of a joke. Wilson leads.

The propaganda begun yesterday to have La Grande business and professional men be gal-l-a-n-t tonight at the reception-dance has taken firm hold, and it is understood that many a gracious wife of this city will crochet tonight while "hubby is at the club."

Various exhibits about the school building attract interest but probably none more than the basket table from the art department. Miss Schlapp brought the latest ideas in basketry with her from Columbia university and the fruits of her handicraft and that of the pupils is seen in the exhibit.

Principals and superintendents employed in the district embracing the Eastern Oregon Institute territory, held a meeting yesterday afternoon and elected W. V. Connor of Imbler president and A. H. Prince of La Grande secretary. A mid-winter meeting will be held February 3rd at La Grande.

Late yesterday afternoon an organ recital was given for the teachers at the Methodist church. Mrs. W. A. Winters, Mrs. Marbel Green, local pipe organists, played several delightful numbers and Mrs. George Huntington Curry sang. Many teachers were present to enjoy the recital given in their honor.

Sinnott Speaks Here Tomorrow Evening

Expected His Address Will Close Republican Campaign in This City—Speaks at Elks' hall on Campaign Issues.

N. J. Sinnott will, in all probabilities, close the Republican campaign in La Grande when he speaks here tomorrow night at the Elks' old hall. Mr. Sinnott, fresh from a tour of smaller towns in Union and Wallawa counties, comes enthused about the prospects of Hughes carrying the district he has just covered. His address tomorrow night will be, Republicans say, a clearest portrayal of the issues now at stake. It is expected that a large crowd will be out to hear the Eastern Oregon congressman.

EXPECTED EAST AND WEST WILL BE JOINED IN ONE

Learned Addresses and Department Lessons Make Today's Program Interesting.

After tomorrow the Eastern Oregon division of the State Teachers' association will cease to exist; out of it will grow a tri-county institute, with individual officers and annual meetings, but the rank and file of the association now in its sixteenth year will center in the State Teachers' association and there will be no eastern or western section. True, this vital step has not actually been taken, but vigorous effort to bring about a union of both divisions into a state association to meet each Christmas week in Portland has begun, and it is also rumored that the three county superintendents of this institute, appropriated with power a year ago to make recommendations this fall on the question, will favor the union when the business of the institute is taken up tomorrow. State Superintendent Churchill approved of the plan to the teachers today.

Baker Next Meeting Place. When the business hour arrives tomorrow it is presumed that Baker will be chosen as the next meeting place and A. C. Strange of Baker will be named president. The name Blue Mountain Tri-County Teachers' institute has been suggested as a suitable name for the new organization.

The character of the state association is rapidly changing, and now embraces team work by committees through the year to ferret out solutions of problems in the state as a whole and report to the state body. For instance it has been established that it costs the state \$50.00 for every child that is retarded one year, and to cure retardation of children means thousands of dollars saved by the state. Mr. Churchill pointed out in his address this afternoon. Contributing factors to retardation will be run down via state association channels, and eliminated, if possible.

Pendleton Normal Supported. One of the great causes of this retardation, the superintendent said, is lack of proper teachers, and from this education he said normal training was essential. In this connection he came out flat footedly in favor of the proposed Pendleton Normal.

It is believed the resolutions committee will bring the Pendleton normal question before the convention proper tomorrow morning.

Bible Teaching Recommended. The superintendent also made his position very clear on Bible teaching in high school life, after pointing out the absolute necessity of moral training in the schools. For the grade children he said a committee has been appointed to report back some means of preparing this instruction and a course with the state's sanction will be ready for distribution before the year is out.

In the high school life of the state,

the superintendent has a plan already worked out whereby it will be possible for a student to gain one credit in any high school by doing a certain amount of Bible reading in the Sunday Schools of the state and in the homes. The purpose is to send out examination questions once in January and once in June. These will be based on Biblical questions and if satisfactorily answered, the state will recommend the student's high school give one credit for this work. In this way the Bible can be studied from the viewpoint of the student's home life.

Although much in the way of business looming up, and the resolutions committee already holding frequent sessions to draft measures to be presented tomorrow the teachers are keeping close to the program schedule. When the second day of the convention took up this morning, Rev. Roberts of the Methodist Church, South, offered prayer and then were introduced the second grade pupils of the city schools who sang under the direction of Miss Hindman, musical instructor. Again just after the morning recess the third graders sang. The showing made reflected credit upon the teacher and the pupils.

Mr. Sisson Speaks Again. The first address of the morning was one delivered by E. O. Sisson, commissioner of education in Idaho. He said the greatest weakness of the American school system is the lack of thoroughness and mastery—in other words superficiality.

"The two lacks of our educational system," he said, "are hardship and religion for we cannot educate without these two. The aim of the teacher should be to inspire the pupil not alone to do good but to do the best work of which he is capable."

Normal President Heard. Just before the noon recess today J. H. Ackerman, president of Mouth Normal addressed the teachers, speaking upon "Some planks in a Teachers' ethical platform."

He first pointed to the fact that the doctor, the lawyer and even the barber has an ethical code. "Why not the teacher?" he asked.

Some of the planks Mr. Ackerman thinks a teacher should stand upon include:

- Uplift the profession.
- Be loyal to Oregon's educational system.
- Never let go of an engagement in a school unless authorities willingly permit it.
- Don't make application until you know there is a vacancy.
- When hired, withdraw all other applications you may have out.
- Don't underbid.
- Don't undermine.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

OLD CRISIS MAY AGAIN BE REVIVED

Washington, Nov. 2.—(United Press)—Secretary of State Lansing has made a statement which indicated the entire armed merchantman controversy between United States and Germany will re-open if it is proved the British steamer Marina carried guns when she was submerged. Merchantmen's right to carry guns is still an open question and will be a principal issue if negotiations develop over the death of six Americans aboard the Marina. America has maintained merchantmen have a right to carry guns but Germany never admitted the right. The question first arose in the Lusitania case. America has insisted merchantmen carry six-inches but the question lapsed. Mr. Lansing expects Germany to claim armed merchantment are not included in her submarine promises.

HUGHES SURE OF OHIO AND ALSO INDIANA: WILSON IS IN GOTHAM

Batavia, N. Y., Nov. 2.—(United Press)—Hughes addressed an enthusiastic audience here and predicted a victory in Ohio and Indiana. He said: "I received in those states receptions perhaps exceeding those accorded any candidate—not a tribute to me personally, but an indication of the people's deep interest in prosperity's essential conditions. "Democrats promised to reduce the cost of living and promised to stop extravagant government. They are unfulfilled. Republicans are not guided by war prosperity." Hughes speaks at Albany tonight.

New York, Nov. 2.—(United Press)—Pres. Wilson spoke at a businessmen's luncheon in the Waldorf today and got 15-minute demonstration. He said: "Living is very serious and plain people are a source of strength for business and the government. The roots of our daily life are people traveling the streets. They have the impression they are being exploited; others prosper while they get the crumbs." Mr. Wilson speaks in Madison Square Garden and Cooper's Union tonight.

Home News Items For The Teachers

Things of Interest Happen in Baker, Richland, Halfway, Canyon City, Durkee, Beech Creek and Elsewhere.

Baker, Nov. 2.—(Special)—Under the foremanship of W. C. Calder of this city, the Baker county grand jury convened yesterday at the court house, with District Attorney Godwin, to prepare for the November term of circuit court. One of the first cases to be probed, was that in which Claude Duke of Pine valley, is charged with the commission of a statutory crime. Duke is still at large, having eluded pursuit when the complaint was filed last summer.

It is thought that the jury will not be able to conclude its business until next week.

Thieves Work at Baker. Baker, Nov. 2.—(Special)—While Halloween was being generally observed in the city Tuesday night, thieves entered the junk warehouse of Abe Jackson on the corner of Second and Valley, taking a number of hides. In addition, wagons belonging to Mr. Jackson were removed from near the warehouse, one of them being broken, the entire damage he estimates, being in the neighborhood of \$50. Entrance was effected by pulling a staple to which the padlock of the Valley avenue door was secured. No clue to the identity of the thieves has been secured.

Items From Richland. Richland, Nov. 2.—(Special)—Richland is enjoying beautiful weather. (Born to Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wallace, a baby girl.

C. M. Maley and wife and Jack Luce and wife of Halfway were in the valley on business Thursday. Mr. and Mrs. Perrian Kelley of New Bridge, returned from a two weeks' visit at the home of Charles Carothers of Robinett Friday. Mr. Kelley caught a couple of fine sturgeon in Snake river.

George Downs, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Parley Downs is seriously ill with pneumonia. Mrs. Dan Gover left Wednesday for Baker to undergo an operation. She was accompanied by her mother, Mrs. William Densley. Edward Hartley purchased a new automobile this week.

Halfway Personals. Halfway, Nov. 2.—(Special)—Rain and hail fell here late Sunday afternoon, it being the most moisture in this section for two weeks. The first snow since spring is on the pine-covered hills west of town.

Dr. and Mrs. C. R. Bennett entertained at a Halloween party at their home Monday evening, the house being decorated in Halloween style. A delightful time was enjoyed by all the guests, some being dressed as witches and ghosts. Mrs. J. J. Sturgill is ill with la grippe.

The funeral of Scott Curry, who died Saturday morning from injuries sustained when kicked by a horse, was held Sunday in the Presbyterian church at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

The teachers of Pine valley left Tuesday morning for La Grande to attend the institute this week.

Attorney C. J. Shelton is back from a business trip to Union. Roy R. Corey was here from Baker Saturday.

J. C. Wilson and Roy Carothers were up from Robinett Sunday. Clyde Gaylord is visiting in Halfway this week.

Mrs. W. B. Robinson came up to Halfway Monday from Homestead on her way to Cornucopia.

Canyon City News. Canyon City, Nov. 2.—(Special)—Reno Aldrich of John Day closed a deal Saturday for 124 acres of farming land near Mt. Vernon to McLeeland Stockdale, who owns the adjoining place. J. S. Buseik and G. Edwin Jones, two prominent stockmen of the Hamilton vicinity were in Canyon Saturday. Mrs. Helen Belts of Pendleton is here on a visit to her mother, Mrs. Mary Mason. Mrs. Belts expects to soon join her husband and go to their new home in Saskatchewan, Canada.

Brevities From Durkee. Durkee, Nov. 2.—(Special)—Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Warrick and Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Giroux motored to Baker Sunday.

Albert Hindman, Albert Hucker and Charles Chadwell are attending court in Baker.

M. S. Howard, Cordell Baisley and

(Continued on Page Eight.)

FORT VAUX IN FRENCH HANDS ADMITS BERLIN

FORT WAS THE LAST IN GERMAN POSSESSION ALONG VERDUN FRONT.

ELSEWHERE BOTH SIDES OF CONFLICT GAINING

Germans Say They Have Made Captures in the East—Prisoners Taken—Allies Lay Claim to Decisive Gains at Western Points—British Attack Set Back.

Berlin, November 2.—(United Press)—It is admitted Germans have evacuated Fort Vaux on the Verdun front, but dynamited important defenses before retreating. French artillery forced the abandonment of Vaux—the last Verdun fort remaining in German possession.

Germans repulsed a British attack North of Courcellette and French gained slightly between Lesboeufs and Bancourt. Allies suffered heavily northwest of Morval.

Germans have entered the northern part of Sully. Germans stormed Russian positions on the left bank of the Stochodina. The enemy abandoned 1500 prisoners, 10 machine guns and three minton throwers.

Germans captured 60 prisoners near Alexandrovka.

London, Nov. 2.—(United Press)—Haig has reported a heavy rain of halted the Somme offensive.

Berlin, Nov. 2.—(United Press)—in Allies have shelled Constantza, a Black Sea port but unsuccessfully. Roumanian attacks on Teutons beyond Pe deal Pass failed. Serbians were repulsed on the Macedonian front.

BUT ONE SEES DEUTSCHLANKE

Captain Koenig Says Boat Will Come a Museum After the War

New London, Nov. 2.—(United Press)—Captain Koenig said today Germany intends to make a museum of Deutschland a museum after the war and charge admission. He refused to admit visitors—except the mayor, who is on short leave. Pretty well almost hugged the sailors and public cheered wherever they peered. Autographs are demanded. She has not started unloading cargo. Koenig said: "The submarine is warship of the future. Battleships are useless."

Seed Back Dead.

Portland, Ore., Nov. 2.—(Special)—Seed Back, a prominent Chifon resident, died yesterday.

Entire O-W Main Line Now Fully Appraised

West-end Crew Reaches La Grande Last Night—Washington Lines Appraised Too—Brat Unappraised.

So far as the main line of the O-W is concerned, it has been fully appraised by engineers representing the Interstate Commerce commission in that body's purpose of settling the entire cost of reproduction of the railroads in the United States a few days ago a crew of engineers completed the mainline from Mt. Vernon to La Grande, and last night another crew under R. A. Hainbeck reached La Grande, completing the appraisal from Seattle to La Grande along the mainline. The appraisal has been working in the northwest and the entire Washington state, so far as the O-W is concerned, is now appraised. The appraisal crew will not go over the St. and Heppner branches, the appraisal crew branch in the meantime will be appraised at Minam today.