

La Grande Evening Observer

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

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NUMBER 160.

GERMANY SENDS PEACE TERMS TO NEUTRALS

SEALED PACKET IS DELIVERED
CONTENTS OF WHICH TELLS
OF KAISER'S PROPOSALS

TO BE SENT ONLY TO ALLIES
ANSWERING PREVIOUS OFFER

Diplomatic Message is to Be Returned
If Enemies Do Not Request Definite Terms—Austro-Hungarian Naval Vessels Report Victory—Fighting Is Continued on Christmas Day.

Rome, Dec. 26.—(United Press)—According to a report here Germany has handed the neutrals a sealed packet containing specific terms upon which she is willing to make peace. The neutrals are instructed only to forward it to enemies answering the peace proffers, and actually requesting terms. Otherwise it is to be returned.

Naval Destroyers Battle
Berlin, Dec. 26.—(United Press)—Four Austro-Hungarian destroyers on the night of the 22d sank two patrolers in the Ontario straits and returning routed six enemy destroyers of a superior type. One hostile destroyer was hit several times at short range. The Hungarian losses were one man.

Artillerying Increases
Berlin, Dec. 26.—(United Press)—Repeated repulse of British patrols was reported in today's official bulletin from the western front. Artillerying is actively increasing in the Ypres sector.

Germans Capture Village
Berlin, Dec. 25.—(United Press)—Germans and Austrians stormed at point of bayonets and tenaciously defended the village of Ellipesti in Wallachia, is announced in today's official dispatches.

Fight on Christmas Day
Paris, Dec. 26.—(United Press)—Official reports are that active artillerying was in progress in the Lechons regions on the Somme Christmas day.

British Announce Victory.
London, Dec. 26.—(United Press)—Practical destruction of the enemy's forces in an engagement Saturday at Magdabab, Egypt, was announced by the war office today. Thirteen hundred and fifty prisoners were taken.

LITTLE CHRISTMAS AT FRONT
British Repulse Efforts of Teutons to Fraternize.

At the British Front, Dec. 26.—(United Press)—So far as fighting was concerned Christmas was only the twenty-fifth of December to the Britishers. German efforts to fraternize were discouraged by trench mortars and grenades. Saxons hung a Christmas tree over a parapet. Troops took turns at the front and celebrated the day with Christmas lunches and theatricals at the rear.

Russians Fail to Advance.
Berlin, Dec. 26.—(United Press)—Russian raiders failed to advance in League valley, south of Dornavatra. Official bulletins detailing Carpathian fighting announced that heavy artillerying was in progress in the region of Lower Stochd Ludova height.

STEAMER SENDS
UP S.O.S. CALL

The Maryland Calls for Help by Wireless—Four Vessels Rush to Her Assistance.

New York, Dec. 26.—(United Press)—The Steamer Maryland is reported sinking one hundred and fifty miles off Sandy Hook, according to wireless message. Four vessels have gone to her aid. The Maryland wireless that her engine rooms were being rapidly flooded.

TWO YOUNG BOYS DROWN
Snohomish Youths Go Canoeing—Bodies Are Found Near Slough.

Snohomish, Dec. 26.—(United Press)—The bodies of Paul Orenior, 14, and Walter Johnson, 15, were found in a slough near here. The boys went canoeing Sunday and drowned.

About 25 cents of each dollar received by the railroads are paid out for materials and supplies, the bulk of which goes into pay envelopes.

Joseph Makes Merry at Holiday Season

Community Tree Exercises Are a Success—Santa Claus Brings Candy for All—Old Joseph Landmark Purchased.

Joseph, Dec. 26.—(Special)—The community Christmas tree exercises which were under the auspices of the Joseph Commercial Club, were held without an accident of any kind to mar the pleasure of the evening, even the weather seemed to cooperate with the manager to make it a great success, for the storm which had been doing its best to blow the tree over before the affair, seemed to subside as the evening drew near. The program started about seven-thirty with a number by the choir and orchestra. Rev. F. R. Sibley then told a Christmas story, then just before Santa Claus came with his sleigh load of about 500 sacks of candy and nuts, the girls of our school, under the auspices of Miss Helen Wastell (the girls' physical instructor) gave the "Nymph Dance" a very pretty lot of stepping, jumping, and skipping by the girls, who were arrayed in pure white angel dresses. This under the glare of many colored electric lights (500 in fact, all arranged in a circle around the tree).

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Insane Patient Dies Result of Scalding

Salem, Dec. 26.—(United Press)—Sarah Horr, aged 73, died today as the result of scalding at the insane asylum. She was committed from Monmouth. She was scalded while taking a bath.

RECEIVES UNIQUE GREETING

J. M. Berry Is Recipient of Christmas Good Will and Good Wishes

J. M. Berry, of Portland, formerly a prominent merchant of La Grande, who is here for the holidays, received the following unique Christmas greeting made up in the form of a legal document, from his cousin, J. M. Berry of Seattle:

TO WHOM SHALL COME THESE PRESENTS, GREETING:

I, J. M. Berry, of the City of Seattle in the County of King and State of Washington, being of sound mind and disposing memory, a stout heart and slim purse, and being desirous of remembering bountifully and extravagantly all whom it is my good pleasure to love at this glad Christmas time, do now hereby bestow graciously and convey voluntarily to you the riches of my good will, the fortune of my best wishes, and the wealth of my love.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Seattle aforesaid, this twenty-fifth day of December, in the Year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and sixteen.

J. M. BERRY.
("A World of Good Wishes," Seal)

Signed and sealed by said J. M. Berry in the presence of us who, in his presence, in the presence of each other, and at his request, have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses:

SANTA CLAUS,
ST. NICHOLAS.

Rush at Post Office Is Nearing An End

Christmas Packages Are Distributed Sunday—Mail Has Been Cleared Away Rapidly and Congestion Nears an End.

With the aid of cars the Christmas packages were distributed Sunday and by Sunday night the post-office was well cleared.

Scores were waiting when the window was opened Monday morning and a great deal was disposed of in this way.

With the arrival of mail last night and this morning the employees are again busy and will no doubt be rushed for the next few days until the Christmas jam is over.

The average number of sacks of incoming mail has been about seventy-five and the number sent out has been about the same.

The office has disposed of the mail exceptionally well this year considering the amount that has been handled.

Lawson Invited To Tell About Leaks

Washington, D. C., Dec. 26.—(United Press)—Chairman Henry, of the rules committee of the house, to which Woods' investigation resolution was referred, today extended to Thomas Lawson a formal invitation to tell all he knew to prove that the important government moves in Washington "always leak out."

GERMANY ASKS FOR MEETING OF DELEGATES

KAISER'S REPLY TO PRESIDENT WILSON'S PEACE NOTE IS
HANDLED TO GERARD.

SYMPATHY EXPRESSED FOR
MOVE OF UNITED STATES

Note Hints That Great Work of Preventing Future Wars Can Only Commence After Present Struggle Is Ended—Gerard Scheduled to Confer with Kaiser Today.

Berlin, Dec. 26.—(United Press)—Germany's informal note in reply to President Wilson's note was handed Ambassador Gerard today, and proposes a meeting of delegates from all belligerents. The note hints "Great work of prevention of future wars can only commence after the end of the present struggle. When this moment arrives Germany is ready with pleasure to collaborate entirely with the United States in this exalted task."

Gerard to Meet Kaiser.

Amsterdam, Dec. 26.—(United Press)—Ambassador Gerard is scheduled to confer with the Kaiser today, so dispatches from Berlin stated. The Kaiser has also asked the Swiss minister to come to the palace for an audience.

Says Germany Dodges Issue.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 26.—(United Press)—Washington's hasty examination of Germany's reply led one of the foremost administration officials to state his belief that the Allies were unsatisfied to meet the Teutonic proposals. He held Germany directly dodged the request of the United States to state something specific in the way of peace terms.

CURRIED NUTTORIA ONE OF
BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS MEATLESS DISHES

London, Eng., Dec. 26.—(By United Press)—Filet of mock sole, Curried Nuttoria, Nut Cutlets, Fine Chicken and Mock Stewed steak were some of the meatless delicacies of the new vegetarian war menus in the House of Commons yesterday.

The Commons, where the country has been informed of the food situation, set the country a fine example. For the first time in British history, members of Commons ate all the things that look like meat but "ain't" and none, so far, has complained that he is being badly nourished. From 40 to 60 cents is the price of an official meatless meal.

EXPRESS COMPANY IS BUSY
More Christmas Packages Handled This Year Than for Some Time Past

The Express Company is this year handling more packages than it has for some time. For the last two weeks the number has averaged five hundred a day. The fact that there have been no complaints is due to the use of the new steel-bound chests which protect the packages from any injury. These packers have recently been added to the service and have proved an important asset to the company.

Send the Christmas Observer to Your Friends

A limited number of the Christmas Edition of The Observer will be sold at 10 cents, including mailing and postage.

Those who desire to send them away need only phone The Observer, Main 37, the addresses and The Observer will do the rest.

Lloyd George Appeals to America; Urges U. S. to Hear Destiny's Call

New York, Dec. 26.—(By United Press)—An appeal to America from the British premier, David Lloyd George, "to realize the call Destiny is making to her" for "the enforcement of International Law and International Rights" is contained in Isaac F. Marcossion's personal study of England's prime minister in today's issue of Everybody's magazine.

"The hope of the world," said Lloyd George in his "message to America," "is that America will realize the call Destiny is making to her in tones that are getting louder and more insistent as these terrible months go by."

"That Destiny lies in the enforcement of respect for International law and International rights."

"Throughout our talk," says Marcossion, "he had sat in a low chair, sometimes tilting it backwards as he swayed with the vehemency of his words. Suddenly (in recognition of Marcossion's question), he became still. He turned his head and looked dreamily out the window at his left, where he could see the throng of Whitehall as it swept back and forth along London's great military way."

"Then, rising slowly and with eloquent gestures and trembling voice, (he might have been speaking to thousands instead of one person), he gave me his message."

England's War Lord.

"It was a pregnant and unforgettable moment. From the throne room of a colossal conflict England's war lord was sounding the note of a distant process of peace."

"If you had probed behind this kindling utterance you would have seen with Lloyd-George himself 'not beyond the flaming battle-lines and past the tumult of a world at war was the hope of some far-away tribunal that would judge nations and keep them, just as individuals are kept, in the path of right and humanity."

"But before any such bloodless antidote can be applied to International dispute to quote Lloyd-George again, 'This war must be fought to a finish'."

"These final words, snapped like a whip-lash and emphasized with a fist-beat on the table, meant that England would see her Titan task through and if for no other reason, because the man who drives the war-gods will it so."

"What sort of man is this who goes from post to post with inspired faith and unflinching execution? What are the qualities that have lifted him from obscure provincial solicitor to be the prop of a people?"

"Reducing the wizard Welshman to a formula, you find that he is 50 per cent Roosevelt in the virility and forcefulness of his character, 15 per cent Bryan in the purely demagogic phase of his make-up, while the rest is canny Celt opportunism. It makes a dazzling and well-nigh irresistible composite."

Compared to Roosevelt.

"It is with Roosevelt, that the best and happiest comparison can be made. Indeed, I know of no more convincing interpretation of the thing that is Lloyd-George than to point this

"Lloyd George is what we in America, and especially those of us born in the South, call the 'silver-tongued.' His whole style of delivery is emotional, and greatly resembles the technique of the Breckenridge-Watterson school. In his voice is the soft, melodious lilt of the Welsh, which greatly adds to the attractiveness of his speech."

"Before the public he is always even-tempered and amiable, serene and smiling, quick to capitalize interruption and drive home the chance remark. He invariably establishes friendly relations with his hearers, and he has the extraordinary ability to make every man and woman in the audience before him believe that he is getting a direct and personal message."

Will Open Branch Store at Enterprise

J. C. Penney Company Is Expanding and Will Open Fifty New Stores in the Western States.

J. C. Penney Co. are making plans for 1917 in securing new locations for new stores.

While all new locations for all cities have not as yet been officially announced, it is known Oregon is to receive quite a few. One of these will be Enterprise, where they have secured a location and are now having a building built for them. This will be a branch from their store here—The United Store.

The steady growth of this merchandising organization shows how progressive selling methods, combined with large buying power have been received by the buying public. In some ways it also denotes the financial condition of the west for there will be in the neighborhood of 50 new stores opened up in the different western states.

American Troops Warned.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 26.—(United Press)—American border patrols for a hundred miles within reach of here were warned by military authorities to be alert today. Several sources report armed bands have been seen across the Rio Grande, where Carranza has garrisons.

Germans Capture Filipesi.

Berlin, Dec. 26.—(United Press by Wireless via Sayville).—Official statement has been issued that Filipesi has been captured. Fifty-five hundred Russians were taken prisoners during the last few days, while fighting on the Wall Chian plain ledge of the mountain south of Rimnicusar. According to unofficial advice all Dob-Ruja is now in the hands of the Teutons. Bridgehead positions on the Danube where it forms the border of Bessarabia, are being pounded.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Portland, Dec. 26.—(United Press)—The weather bureau forecast follows: Weather tonight and Wednesday—Fair; colder east portion.

LA GRANDE HAS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS DAY

CELEBRATION BEGINS WITH
ELEVENTH HOUR SHOPPING
AND CONTINUES TWO DAYS

IN THE MIDST OF PLENTY
POOR ARE NOT OVERLOOKED

Open Air Celebration at Municipal Christmas Tree Proves Inspiring Event—Elks and Eagles and Salvation Army Dispense Cheer—Religious Character of the Day Attracts Attendance to Churches.

Observer Has Merry Christmas.

The Observer has had a very merry Christmas. Starting with the presents given the carrier boys of warm gloves and mittens, cash prizes were awarded to Clarence Burns, Clarke Price and Clyde Wilson, carrier boys who had made the best records for delivering papers on their routes, and to Alonzo Dunn, who got the most new subscribers. Then came the presentation to A. W. Nelson, retiring news editor, of a beautiful K. P. ring by his fellow employees, Mr. Moran making the presentation speech.

Christmas gifts were also sent by The Observer to the wives of employees. The Observer received many remembrances from friends, and the best gift of all was the fact that the staff enjoyed two days' complete rest from work—Sunday and Monday.

La Grande certainly had a merry Christmas.

Saturday night was a gala night in the downtown district, the stores were filled with eager shoppers, and merchants report better business than for several years past.

The holiday spirit was in the air, Christmas greetings were gaily exchanged, and the pretty decorations in the stores much admired.

The best thing about La Grande's Christmas was that it really had the "peace on earth—good will toward men" air and atmosphere. The poor were not forgotten; the Elks, Eagles and Salvation Army did themselves credit by dispatching cheer into homes that were in need of succor, but fortunately in prosperous La Grande such cases were not numerous.

And the religious nature of the day, the anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ, was not overlooked. All the churches held special services, which were well attended, and the coming of the star, the pilgrimage of the shepherds and the wise men, and the wonderful scene in the manger in Bethlehem was retold in song and story.

Open Air Celebration Held

The open air Christmas celebration in La Grande was Sunday evening, when the beautiful electric illuminated tree at Fourth and Depot was christened with appropriate ceremonies of song, speaking and prayer. Rev. Charles Edwards, president of the ministerial association was chairman; Rev. J. J. Tiekner gave the prayer. Rev. S. M. Roberts gave an address on "The Christmas Spirit." Rev. G. L. Clark an address on "The Three Shepherds," and Rev. H. L. Ford on "The Three Wise Men." Ensign Childers spoke on "Christ the Saviour is Born." Rev. Upton H. Gibbs gave the benediction. Interspersed in the speaking program were songs and carols as follows: "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night," "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," and other hymns.

The attendance was large. People came in autos, in sleighs and other conveyances and on foot and stood patiently in the snow while the program was rendered. The sound of the music and hymns floating through the crisp air was inspiring, the whole scene was beautiful and the services left an inspiring effect. The singing of the carols was especially good and reflected great credit upon the choir.

Elks Gladden Children

Many a little heart was made glad yesterday afternoon when over eight hundred children assembled at the Elks' building to share the fun at the annual tree given by the Elks. Grown-ups as well as the "kiddies" were present to take part and enjoy the frolic. All were entertained with music and dancing given by a group of trained entertainers whose performance was hailed with delight.

Santa Claus was given a royal reception at his arrival and was escorted triumphantly to the door when

Armor Plate Plant Not To Be Near the Coast

Washington, D. C., Dec. 26.—(United Press)—The ruling of the navy department that the proposed \$11,000,000 government armor-plate plant should not be located nearer than 200 miles from the coast or Great Lakes, has eliminated all Ohio cities with the exception of Ironton, Senator Harding said today.

"Governor Stanford," the First S. P. Engine, in Memorial Museum.

The "Governor Stanford," the first locomotive to operate on the Southern Pacific system, which was given to Stanford university, has been placed in the university's memorial museum. The "Governor Stanford" operated between Sacramento and Colfax. It was brought around the Horn in 1863.

—S. P. Bulletin.

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