

La Grande Evening Observer

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

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NUMBER 161.

UNREST GROWS IN NORTHERN MEXICO, REPORT

STATE DEPARTMENT SAYS ADMINISTRATION'S ATTENTION IS FOCUSED ON BORDER

SECRETARY LANE CALLS FOR MEETING JOINT COMMISSION

Date of Conference Is Not Set But It Will Probably Be Held This Week—Up to Noon Carranza Had Not Signed the Troops Withdrawal Protocol.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 27.—(United Press)—Two developments that closely followed each other today thrust the Mexican situation again into the foreground. The first was the unsolicited statement of the state department that the unrest in northern Mexico was increasing and that as a result the administration's attention was again focused on the border.

The second announcement came from Secretary Lane. He issued a statement that he had called a conference of the American-Mexican-American commission at an early date, probably this week.

At noon no word of Carranza signing the protocol had been received.

Michigan Guards Stay on Border. El Paso, Texas, Dec. 27.—(United Press)—After preparations had been made for entraining to go home, orders were given for the Thirty-First Michigan Guards to delay their departure. No reason was assigned.

Joint Installation Tonight. The Eastern Star and The Masonic Lodge will hold a joint installation tonight at 7:30 in the Masonic Hall. Mrs. Dora B. Schilke, worthy grand patron, will be the installing officer. The ceremony will be followed by a banquet.

Missing Man Found. Grants Pass, Dec. 27.—(United Press)—Thomas Reilea, missing in the mountains for three days has been found.

NEW YORK MAY HAVE BIG STRIKE IN JANUARY New York, Dec. 27.—(United Press)—New Years promises to find New York engaged in a big labor struggle. Nine organizations of one hundred and fifty thousand members plan strikes in hotels and restaurants. Fifteen thousand shirt workers demand twenty per cent wage increase also.

THE WEATHER FORECAST. Portland, Dec. 27.—(United Press)—The weather forecast for tonight and Thursday is rain and snow; warmer in the west tonight.

Spokane Is Jubilant; Is Bank Headquarters

Inland Empire City Is Celebrating Victory Over Being Made Farmers' Capital of Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

Spokane, Dec. 27.—(Special)—Spokane is jubilant over getting the headquarters for the Federal Farm Loan Bank.

SNOW PLOWS BUSY AROUND MEACHAM

Several Extra Gangs Are Put On in Order to Keep Railroad Tracks Open for Traffic.

Meacham, Dec. 27.—(Special)—The weather all during the past week has been very disagreeable, snowing every day. On Thursday nearly two feet had fallen and there was also a blizzard which drifted the snow very high at places. On Friday the blizzard discontinued its havoc. The rotary and snow plow both worked on Thursday keeping railroad traffic clear. On

Bandits Blow Open Safe and Steal \$3000

Temple, Okla., Dec. 27.—(United Press)—Bandits blew open a safe in a bank at Faxon and escaped with three thousand dollars in booty.

FORMER LA GRANDERS APPEAR IN CANTATA

Messrs. Bramwell and Ferrin Are Stars in Cantata Given at Grants Pass.

A friend from Grants Pass sends the following clipping from the Rogue River Courier telling of the appearance of Messrs. Bramwell and Ferrin, formerly of La Grande, in a Christmas cantata:

"The Star of the East," the cantata rendered by the Grants Pass Music club at Bethany Presbyterian church Friday evening, was enjoyed by several hundred music lovers who pronounced it a most artistic rendition.

The music is of high and lofty character and affords excellent opportunity for the display of the contralto, baritone and tenor solo voices of Mrs. Parsons, Mr. Bramwell, and Mr. Ferrin. The work of the chorus was uniformly good and the crescendos were taken with telling effect under the baton of Mr. Davis, who, by the way, is a director of no ordinary ability, and who gets his intelligent effects without noise or fury.

Some 25 or 30 singer took part in the chorus and the volume was excellent but in fine control.

All in all, the performance reflected great credit both upon the musical intelligence and intuition of director, soloists and chorus, and the appreciation by the large and demonstrative audience of the excellent musical composition.

The footnote is added: "Mr. Bramwell and Mr. Ferrin are recently from La Grande. Thanks for them. Send us some more like them."

Christmas Is Scene Of Pretty Wedding

Clyde Basham and Miss Mabel Callender Are United in Marriage—Rev. H. L. Ford Officiates.

Christmas day at the home of E. A. Row, at 1803 Y Avenue, the wedding of Clyde Basham and Miss Mabel Callender was solemnized, Rev. H. L. Ford officiating. Mr. Basham is an employee of the freight department of the O. W. R. & N. Miss Callender arrived recently from Minnesota. She is a sister of Mrs. E. A. Row. Mr. and Mrs. Basham will make their home in this city on Spruce street.

COURT DECISION IS AFFIRMED

Supreme Court Sustains Mortgage Foreclosure of Hot Lake

Salem, Dec. 27.—(Special)—The supreme court has affirmed Judge Knowles' decision in the case of Meyers vs. the Hot Lake Sanitarium. This was the case in which Mr. Meyers acted as trustee for the bondholders who foreclosed the mortgage on the Hot Lake Sanitarium.

POSTOFFICE EMPLOYEES GLAD

The postoffice rush is nearly over and by tonight the Christmas mail will be well cleared. Postmaster Bragg announced today that if he "hadn't had the best force in the world" they would have been completely swamped. Their work was speedy and efficient and the public was well pleased with their efforts.

New Electric Sign.

A large electric sign has been purchased by the La Grande Pharmacy and has been placed in position over that store. The sign measures about ten feet by three and one-half and will aid in the general appearance of Adams avenue.

Friday an extra gang came up from

Cayuse and helped dispose of the accumulating snow and later an extra gang outfit was set out here to be of assistance.

Meacham Notes.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Madin and Miss Meda Shrekise went to Pendleton on Monday to do their Christmas shopping.

W. B. Ross went to Pendleton on Tuesday to attend to business.

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NO TRACE IS FOUND OF THE STR. MARYLAND

CUTTERS ACUSHNET AND GRESHAM SEND NEWS TO WASHINGTON

NAVAL VESSELS AT SPOT OF THE S. O. S. SIGNALS

Two Steamships in Maritime Register Are Named Maryland, One British Vessel and Other American—Wireless Messages Sending Up Distress Signals Were Weak—German U-Boat May Be Cause.

Washington, Dec. 27.—(United Press)—The U. S. Navy Cutters Acushnet and Gresham are reported standing by the position from which the steamer Maryland yesterday sent "S. O. S." call but discovered no trace. They are continuing their search.

Four vessels are now on their way to aid her. The steamship Savannah, the cutter Achusnet from Boston, the cutter Seneca from Newport and the cutter Mohawk, which picked up the distress signals at sea.

Wireless messages said the engine rooms of the Maryland were rapidly being flooded.

There are two steamships in the Maritime Register named Maryland. One of these is a British vessel of 2962 tons and the other is an American vessel of 1899 tons. The latter was last reported, on December 23, leaving Philadelphia for Liverpool or

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BURGLARY BUSY AT REITH

Enters Car Occupied As Sleeping Quarters and Steals Cash, Etc.

Reith, Dec. 27.—(Special)—Sunday evening between 7 and 8 o'clock a burglar entered the car occupied by Pat McDonald and J. Hamel as sleeping quarters and ransacked a trunk and suit case, securing about \$125 in cash, besides valuable jewelry of about \$75. Deputy Sheriff Estes has been working on the case today with some success and arrests may be made at any moment.

Mrs. Ivanhoe Leaves. Mrs. A. E. Ivanhoe left yesterday

COUNTY AGRICULTURIST MAKES REPORT

Paul H. Spillman Reviews His Activities During 1916—700 Orchards Inspected, Pests Fought—Tested Seed Corn Brought in and Experiments Encouraged in Corn Raising—Use of Field Peas Recommended.

To the Honorable County Court and Commissioners of Union County, Oregon:—Gentlemen:—I beg to submit for your consideration a summarized report for the work carried on along various Agricultural lines in Union County, for the year ending Nov. 30, 1916.

Fruit Inspection Inspected some 700 orchards and town lot plantings. Cove and Imbler districts were in fair shape, cleaned up Union district and started work in the La Grande section. The blight situation in the County is well in hand and if followed closely this coming season will have less blight than at any time in the past few years.

Apple Leaf Roller This is a new pest in the Imbler section and must be taken care of. This year as high as 20 per cent of the fruit in some orchards was injured. Carried on some tests with various sprays and from results attained it seems evident an oil emulsion spray will be the only one that can be used to combat this pest.

Potato Bugs Colorado Potato Beetle showed up again in the Elgin and Imbler sections. Had all the infested patches sprayed with either Arsenate of Lead or Paris Green. This is the regular "Potato Bug" of the Eastern states that makes it practically impossible in that part of the country to grow potatoes without spraying. We must keep after them in this county to keep them from spreading and if possible eradicate them.

Potato Work Wrote and advised as to the best methods of handling the potato crop,

LATE NEWS BY WIRE

Spokane Is To Be Northwest Farm Loan Headquarters Washington, D. C., Dec. 27.—(United Press)—The Federal farm loan board announced the following cities in which farm loan banks will be located:

Springfield, Mass.; Baltimore, Columbia, S. C.; Louisville, New Orleans, St. Louis, St. Paul, Omaha, Wichita, Houston, Berkeley, Spokane.

Steamer Sankoku Muru, 400 Persons Aboard, Aground.

Tokio, Dec. 27.—(By United Press)—Steamer Sankoku Muru with four hundred persons aboard is aground off Chefoo. Two Americans are among the passengers. The position of the steamer is said to be hopeless.

Villa's Objective Is Said To Be the City of Tampico.

El Paso, Dec. 27.—(United Press)—Villa's objective is Tampico and the bandit leader is setting the stage for an attack thereon, is indicated by a report issued by United States diplomatic agents here. It is believed Villa is in possession of San Luis Potosi, cutting the communications to Tampico and west.

Sentiment at the British Front Is Opposed to Peace.

BY WILLIAM PHILLIP SIMMS (With the British Army in France.)

AT THE FRONT IN FRANCE, Dec. 27.—(United Press)—"Never was the British army so prepared to fight. Why talk peace? You can safely give that as the British army's answer to all peace talk," declared a staff general answering questions as to what the men thought of President Wilson's note.

To say the American note fell like a bomb shell is putting it mildly. Bomb shells are more or less expected, but the step taken by President Wilson was remotest in all thoughts. Nobody doubts his good intentions, but the sentiment on the front is unconditionally against peace now.

Tornado Sweeps Arkansas, Nine Dead and Many Injured.

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 29.—(United Press)—No wire communication exists in the central portion of the state. It is impossible to tell the exact death toll of the tornado, which swept over the state last night, but four whites and five negroes are known to be dead. More than a score are injured.

afternoon to attend the Superintendent's convention at Portland. She will also attend the Farmers' Week at Corvallis. She was accompanied by Miss Faye Clark, County Superintendent of Malheur county.

CHRISTMAS SLEDS ARE OUT

Boys and Girls Have Merry Time Coasting—No Accidents

Boys and girls are having a fine time with the sleds Santa Claus brought them for Christmas. Many of the hills are utilized for coasting and the shouts of laughter when some youngster upsets are full of merriment. No accidents have been reported.

SEARCH FOR A TRACE OF LEAK IS GOING ON

REP. WOODS DECLARED TO HAVE INFORMATION DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES PROFITED

Washington, D. C., Dec. 27.—(United Press)—Representative Woods' search for evidence regarding the rumored leak to Wall Street giving advance information of President Wilson's note has led to diplomatic circles and the homes of high administration officials, it was said today. It is declared he was informed that a relative of an official, now a broker, profited immensely. Representatives of the United States now in a European capital also profited, it is charged.

WORLD FAMOUS SEERES IS DEAD IN PARIS

Paris, Dec. 27.—(United Press)—The world famous seeress, Madame Dathibes is dead. She was not as successful as usual foretelling the future for the last two years. At least her prophecies of the future world events were not as near mark as in years gone by.

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.

BRITAIN WILL NOT AGREE TO A CONFERENCE

TEUTONIC REPLY TO WILSON IS HAILED AS CHANCE FOR ALLIES TO BE HEARD

STATEMENT OF CHRISTMAS IDEALS IS NOW PLANNED

Germany Is Accused of Lack of Sincerity and Inconclusive Nature of Reply to Wilson Criticized—Germany's Desire for Peace Said To Be Due to Waning Strength.

BY ED. L. KEEN

London, Dec. 27.—(United Press)—It was made entirely clear today that allies will not accept Germany's proposal to hold conference. But the Teutonic reply is hailed as splendid opportunity for England and allies to set before the world a statement epitomizing the Christmas ideals of the allies.

On account of the lack of sincere responsiveness and the inconclusive nature of Germany's reply to President Wilson's note, England thinks Germany is self-convinced of a lack of sincerity.

Strong influences are working today among British statesmen urging that England make this sincerity more striking by issuing a strong statement of the allies fighting principles.

The public is impressed that Germany's overwhelming desire is peace coming from a realization of its waning strength. The Britons believe that Germany realizes that her enemies are growing stronger while the Teutons are growing weaker.

CONFERENCE WITH LLOYD GEORGE

Ministerial Meeting With British Premier Discusses International Situation.

London, Dec. 27.—(United Press)—A ministerial conference on the international situation was held in Lloyd George's official residence on Downing street today. Foreign Secretary Balfour was among those who attended.

It is presumed that the meeting decided to prepare a note telling the world what England is fighting for and answering Pres. Wilson. Lloyd George and Ribot of France, held a long conference yesterday at which was also present Minister of French Munitions Thomas.

Middle West Is In Grip of Storm

Snow Blocks Trains.

Jon Day, Or., Dec. 27.—(Special)—On the summit of the mountain, where the Sumpter valley crosses the Dixie divide, there is over five feet of snow. Snow plows are constantly at work trying to keep the tracks clear, but it has been impossible to maintain traffic schedules and trains are tied up all along the track.

Stage service through the interior is also badly interrupted by the storms.

15 Above Zero at Pendleton.

Pendleton, Dec. 27.—(Special)—Last night was the coldest night in Pendleton for several weeks, the mercury going down to 15 above zero early this morning. The official measurement of the snow showed 1 1/2 inches and this melted made a precipitation of .17 of an inch.

Sleet Storms in Middle West.

Chicago, Dec. 27.—(Special)—Sleet storms delayed wire traffic in the northern tier of the middle western states. Iowa is practically isolated from telegraphic communication. Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Dakotas are affected.

Record Storm in Utah.

Salt Lake, Dec. 27.—(Special)—A record snowstorm in the history of Utah is raging. More than twenty-four inches of snow fell in 24 hours. All trains are late. It is twenty-four below zero at Modena.

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