

La Grande Evening Observer

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

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*The Observer Wishes All Its Readers and Patrons:
A Most Happy and Prosperous New Year*

AVIATORS ARE ON FLIGHT TO TEST MACHINES

ADVENTURE OF FOURTEEN OF
BEST AVIATORS IS GREAT
MILITARY EVENT.

EXPECTED TO PROVE VALUE
OF HUNDRED INVENTIONS

Starting at 10 O'clock from Hemstead,
Long Island, the First Machine
Passes Over Philadelphia, One Hun-
dred and Fifty Miles Away, at
11:34.

Hempstead, L. I., Dec. 30.—(United
Press)—Fourteen of the country's
best aviators started at ten this morning
for the League Island navy yard,
Philadelphia. Great speed was shown
by all. Flight is the greatest from a
military standpoint in the history of
the United States. It is expected to
prove or disprove the value of hun-
dreds of appliances invented for aero-
planes.

Aviator Allen, formerly of the Brit-
ish Flying Corps, is accompanying.
The first machine passed over Phila-
delphia at 11:34, having traveled a
distance of one hundred and fifty-four
miles.

Government Needs Money.
Washington, Dec. 30.—(Special).—
Issuance of \$125,000,000 of Panama
canal bonds, increased income and es-
tate taxes, additional taxes on whisky,
beer, cigarettes and bottled waters and
higher tariff duties on coffee and tea
are proposed in a tentative program to
be considered by the house ways and
means committee when it begins
framing revenue legislation to meet
the prospective deficit of \$370,000,000
at the end of the next fiscal year.

Operation on Jack W. Emerson.
A group of local surgeons success-
fully performed at the hospital today
an operation known as the Albeon bone
transplant on Jack W. Emerson, of
Wallowa. This operation has been
performed in the East and consists of
transplanting live bone from one part
of the body to another. In the case
of Mr. Emerson a broken leg had
failed to unite. This is the first time
this operation has been performed lo-
cally.

Trains Make Up Time.
Westbound trains are speedily mak-
ing up lost time. Number 17 today
was four hours late. About fifty sacks
of eastern mail arrived last night.

GERMANY READY FOR PEACE AND FOR WAR

Lines on Western Front Are Unbroken—Her Armies
Have Swept Victorious Over Rumania, Says Berlin
Correspondent—Political Revolution Is Taking
Place Tending to Give the People More
Power and Opportunity

BY CARL W. ACKERMAN.
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Berlin, Dec. 30.—(By Mail).—Germany is as ready for
peace as she is for continued war. Her record of 1915
justifies either. She begins the year 1917 with her lines
on the western front unbroken after England's and
France's supreme efforts and this despite the fact that her
armies have swept victorious over three-fourths of
Rumania.

Foremost of the year's events in Germany was the pro-
ffer of peace by the Imperial Chancellor von Bethmann-
Hollweg. German public opinion applauds that sentiment
which urged this magnanimous tender. The Chancellor's
speech in the Reichstag and his note to Germany's enemies
aptly summarized the view of the German people.

In the German view, it is now entirely a matter for the
Allies to decide—whether they desire to make peace, or
(Continued on Page Five)

Lamp Upsets, Four Are Burned to Death

Chase, British Columbia, Dec. 30.—
(United Press)—James Chaters and
three children were incinerated when
their home burned. The wife escaped,
but is injured seriously. She says
Chaters was intoxicated and upset
the lamp. The house is isolated and
no assistance was at hand.

Y. M. C. A. Gymnasium Classes.
All the gymnasium classes at the
Y. M. C. A. will open for the second
semester Tuesday January 2nd. The
first class will be the juniors at 4
o'clock, the second class the business-
men at 5 o'clock and the third for the
day will be the senior class at 8
o'clock. Wednesday the ladies' A will
meet at 2 o'clock, the girls at 4
o'clock. Thursday the intermediates
at 4 o'clock and the ladies' B at 7
o'clock. Friday and Saturday will see
all classes in good working order. It
is expected that the attendance at the
classes will be considerably increased
because of the large number of mem-
bers that have joined during the holi-
days.

Villa Captures Small Town of Saltillo

El Paso, Dec. 30.—(United Press).—
Information tending to confirm the
capture of Saltillo by Villistas was re-
ceived by United States authorities.
On the approach of the bandits, the
small garrison of Carranzistas sur-
rendered and joined Villa, according to
advice received here. A division of
Villas army is now marching toward
Monterrey reports from Juarez say.

SAN DIEGO FAIR, LONGEST EVER HELD, CLOSES SUNDAY NIGHT

San Diego, Dec. 30.—(United Press).—
When the lights dim out on the Pana-
ma California International exposition
here tomorrow at midnight California
will have established two duration re-
cords for world's fairs.

The San Diego exposition has been
running exactly two years. The ex-
position at San Francisco in 1915 lasted
nine and a half months or longer
than any previous exposition in this
country. San Francisco closed its fair
with a balance of \$1,000,000 after all
bills had been paid. At the close of
the first year, after having expended
\$10,000,000 the city of San Diego was
\$40,000 to the good on the fair in-
vestment.

The city is thronged with visitors
from all parts of the country today to
attend the closing of the exposition.

THE WEATHER
Portland, Dec. 30.—(United Press).—
Tonight and Sunday, rain and snow;
not so cold; southeasterly winds.

LATE NEWS BY WIRE

Will Set Forth Principles for Which They Are Fighting.
BY ED. L. KEEN.

London, Dec. 30.—(United Press).—Not only will the al-
lies answer Germany's peace proposals clearly but they
will set forth the principles for which the entente is fight-
ing, but the answer will contain an outline upon which
terms England and the allies are willing to negotiate.

The fact that the note would list the terms is expected
to result in awakening England to the fact that the Ger-
man propaganda of the central nations must be effectively
answered.

Press and public are united in the belief that the best
answer would be a comprehensive reaffirmation of the al-
lies' aims and a statement of what they regard as neces-
sary conditions before peace.

Europe's interest is centered in Paris, where the note
will be issued. The note is completed.

Russia's draft will probably reach Paris today with
those of the other entente powers. It is thought it will
be made public before Wednesday.

That Germany sent out feelers because she realized that
the Somme offensive indicated future defeat is suggested.
The Morning Post says: "The Morale battle was scarcely
ended before Germany asked for peace."

Spain Announces Disagreement With Pres. Wilson's Note.

London, Dec. 30.—(United Press).—According to a
Central News Dispatch from Madrid, Spain has notified
the United States she cannot agree to Wilson's peace note.

Danish Note Supporting Wilson's Peace Note Is Received.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 30.—(United Press).—The
Danish note supporting Pres. Wilson's note, similar in
tone to the Norwegian message, was received today.

Rehearsals To Begin Tuesday for Elks' Play

The first rehearsal for the Elks'
play, "A Night in Bohemia" will be
held on Tuesday, January 2, 1917, at
the Elks home. Many of our best
singers and dancers have offered their
services, but there will be no parts as-
signed until after Sunday's meeting of
the entertainment committee.

The following committee Edward
Coolidge, C. O. Ramsey, Fred Meyers,
J. H. Pearce, Adna Rogers and Norman
Deselet will meet Sunday afternoon
and select various other sub-commit-
tees. The outlook is splendid for a
financial success.

The money made on the shows will
go into the building fund.

Cold at Baker.
Baker, Dec. 30.—(Special).—The
lowest temperature ever recorded for
December, with the exception of last
year, was reached Wednesday morn-
ing at 6 o'clock, when the government
thermometer registered 10 degrees be-
low zero. The lowest last year was
12 below zero on December 30. Ob-
server W. D. Maxwell finds that at no
time since the records have been kept
has the mercury gone so low upon De-
cember 27.

Before last year the coldest day in
December was Christmas day in 1891
when a minimum of six below was
reached.

Strike in Portland Is Rapidly Growing

Six Hundred Employees of Northwest
Steel Company Join Those Walking
Out From Willamette Company.

Portland, Dec. 30.—(United Press).—
The strike of the metal trades work-
ers assumed large proportions this
afternoon. Six hundred employees of
the Northwest Steel company joined
those walking out yesterday from the
Willamette Iron and Steel Works, bring-
ing the total up to one thousand men.
Two hundred men from the Colum-
bia Shipbuilding Works are expected to
quit any minute. No violence has
been reported.

S. D. Crowe a Father.
Born to Mrs. S. D. Crowe, wife of
S. D. Crowe, manager of the Home In-
dependent Telephone Company, this
morning at Grande Ronde hospital, an
eight pound boy.

Minor Engagements Reported.
Berlin, Dec. 30.—(United Press).—
Only minor engagements on the Stur-
ma plain on the Macedonian front
were reported in the official dispatches
today.

New Years at the Y. M. C. A. to be Busy

Basketball Games Will Enliven the
Day—Businessmen Will Play Baker
Y. M. C. A. in the Morning.

The Y. M. C. A. will celebrate New
Year's day with a program similar to
most of the associations in the United
States. It has been a custom for
many years for the associations to put
on some athletic events during New
Year's day. Some associations feature
field meets, Sunday school class con-
tests, swimming exhibitions, etc. The
local association will start the day
with a championship series of volley
ball games between the Baker Y. M.
C. A. and the local businessmen's
team, this game will be a thriller and
every person should make an effort
to attend the game. The game will
start at 9 o'clock in the morning, ac-
cording to present arrangements, so
that the Baker businessmen can leave
on the 11:24, but should the train
service be delayed as at present, the
game will be played on the arrival of
the men; all parties interested in this
game can find the definite time by
calling the Y. M. C. A. The La Grande
team that will attempt to retain the
championship are Elmer Stoddard, Dr.
J. P. Graham, Linden McCullough, S.
D. Crowe, George T. Cochran and W.
C. Kelley. There will be no admis-
sion charged for this game. People
who have never seen this game played
are especially invited.

New Year's afternoon will see the
second round of pleasure. The boys
will have the floor at this time. The
first event on the program will be a
basketball game between two teams
from the junior department, and this
game will be a hummer. The Y. M.
C. A. is developing more basketball
players among the boys than any other
institution in the city. The fol-
lowing boys will play: Junior A—
Frank Black, Herman Berger, for-
wards; Robert Williamson, center;
Russell Stewart and Fritz Roberts,
guards; Vester Henderson and Gene
Taylor, substitutes. Junior B—Waldo
Stoddard and Clyde Ford, forwards;
Weldon Smith, center; S. Lynch and
John Heughens, guards; Russell Dahl-
strom and Everett Kirtley, substi-
tutes.

The second event on the program
will be the main event of the day, a
(Continued on Page 9)

Bandits Escape With Money and Diamonds

Los Angeles, Dec. 30.—(United
Press).—After beating L. Joseph un-
conscious in daylight in the crowded
part of the city two bandits tied him
with a rope and looted his loan office
and escaped with all diamonds and
money in the safe.

RUSSIAN PEOPLE WIN GREATEST VICTORY OF YEAR

For the First Time in History of Slav Empire Russian
People Overthrow a Premier—Duma Defies the
Bureaucratic Regime—Rumania's Entrance
Into the War a Dramatic Event—
Allies' Starvation.

BY J. W. T. MASON
(Written for the United Press.)
New York, Dec. 30.—Events of the past year have been
disappointing to all of the principal European belliger-
ents. The greatest victory of the year has not been won
on any of the battlefields, but has occurred on the floor of
the Russian Duman.

For the first time in the history of the Slav Empire, the
Russian people were able, toward the close of the present
year to act in concert, and to overthrow Premier Sturmer,
a well-known bureaucrat and reactionary. The Duma
forced a change in the Czar's government by a defiance of
the bureaucratic regime that will become one of the great
landmarks of the Russian nation's march toward democ-
racy. Compared with the indecisive conflicts on eastern
and western fronts, the victory of the Duma stands out as
the most positive and restful accomplishment of the year.

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**640 Acre Grazing
Homesteads Now Law**
Register and Receiver of La Grande
Land Office Receive Official Tele-
gram From Washington.
The 640 acres grazing homestead
law is now in effect.
The following telegram to the reg-
ister and receiver of the land office
at La Grande was received today:
"Washington, D. C., Dec. 30, 1916.—
Register and Receiver Land Office, La
Grande, Oregon.—Receive and suspend
applications with petitions for designa-
tion under grazing homestead law ap-
proved yesterday."
(Signed) TOLLMAN,
Commissioner.

FRED B. CURREY IS TO BE NEW CITY MANAGER

INFORMAL MEETING OF CITY
COMMISSION HELD LAST
NIGHT.

DR. BROWNTON AND MR.
PALMER AGREE ON ACTION

New City Manager Will Be Elected
and Take Oath of Office on Tues-
day and Begin His Duties Wednes-
day Morning—Solicits Support of
Citizens in His New Work.

At an informal meeting of
the city commission last
night at which Vincent
Palmer, J. D. McKennon
and Dr. H. S. Brownton, the
new city commissioner who
succeeds S. R. Haworth,
were present the matter of
the selection of a city man-
ager to succeed J. E. Foley
was discussed.

Two of the commissioners
Mr. Palmer and Dr. Brown-
ton, agreed that they would
cast their ballots on Tuesday
for Fred B. Currey, who will
therefore be formally elec-
ted and take his oath of of-
fice on Tuesday, and assume
his duties Wednesday morn-
ing.

Mr. Currey has been a
resident of La Grande for
many years. He was born in
Canyon City and came to La
Grande with his father in
1880. He spent a few years
away from La Grande, but
has been a continuous resi-
dent here since 1895.

During this period he has
been engaged in the print-
ing and publishing business,
was for a time manager of
the Hot Lake Sanatorium,
and is at present secretary of

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