

La Grande Evening Observer

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

VOLUME XVI

LA GRANDE, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1917

NUMBER 191.

PLOT TO MURDER PREMIER LLOYD-GEORGE LA GRANDE TO HAVE BEAUTIFUL NEW THEATER

SCOTLAND YARD ARRESTS FOUR ALLEGED CONSPIRATORS

Mother and Daughter and Man and His Wife Arraigned and Remanded For Trial for Attempted Murder

IT IS ANNOUNCED THEY ALSO CONSPIRED TO MURDER LABOR LEADER IN PARLIAMENT

Women Are All Suffragettes. Mason is Expert Chemist and a Conscientious Objector to War. Chief Inspector of Scotland Yard Directed the Investigation. Intense Indignation Prevails in England. Trial to be Held Saturday.

(BY ED. L. KEEN.)

London, Jan. 31.—(United Press)—Mrs. Alice Wheelton and daughter, Harriet, Mrs. Winifred Mason and Albert Mason were arrested on a charge of conspiring to poison David Lloyd-George, Premier of England.

They were arraigned at Derby. The magistrate remanded them all for trial Saturday. It is reported that the prosecutor has thirty witnesses. Later it was announced that the defendants also conspired to murder Arthur Henderson, a Laborite cabinet member.

Mason is an expert chemist and a conscientious objector to war.

The women are all suffragettes. The conspiracy was reported to Scotland Yard Saturday.

Chief Inspector Parker directed the investigation. Mrs. Mason was arrested at Southampton. The others were caught at Derby.

Prosecutor A. H. Bonkin declared the plot was hatched between December 26 and January 30. Intense indignation prevails throughout Britain.

Germans Storm Russian Positions On River AA.

Berlin, via Sayville, Jan. 31.—(United Press)—It is announced that the Germans stormed several Russian positions on the east bank of the River AA. Counter attacks were repulsed. Nine hundred prisoners were taken.

Russians penetrated Prince Leopold's front on the South Valeputna Road.

General Mackenzen reported that the Turks repulsed reconnoitering detachments in Roumania.

French Lorraine attacks were defeated.

Pendleton Officers Make Conditional Acceptance

Umatilla City Asks That Pistols, Instead of Shot Guns, Be Used, and That Two Police Officers, Instead of the Fire Chief and the Police Chief of Pendleton, Make Up Team.

When shown the story from the Pendleton Tribune in which Chief of Police Tom Gurdane and Officer Bill Scheer accepted the challenge of Chief of Police Lou Rayburn and Fire Chief Mackey, the local officers were delighted.

Chief Rayburn agrees with the Pendleton chief that an officer's weapon is an automatic, in preference to a shotgun, and will meet Chief Gurdane with the pistol.

Chief Mackey is not a pistol man, but a shotgun man.

The challenge still stands for any city: Chief of Police Lou Rayburn and Fire Chief Mackey of La Grande will meet the police chief and the fire chief of the same city with shotguns at any time.

The Pendleton Tribune says: When Lou Rayburn and Claude Mackey, chiefs of the La Grande police and fire department, respectively, issued their "scattergun" challenge to the world, they started something. Chief of Police Tom Gurdane and Officer Bill Scheer hereby agree to meet the two "trigger artists" from La Grande in a match with six-shooters.

Chief Gurdane declares that an officer has not right with a shotgun, that a revolver is his particular weapon and therefore the match should be with the automatics.

To top the challenge, Judge Fitz Gerald has waxed exceedingly jubilant over the skill of the two local policemen, for he has watched them at practice, and he declares if his two favorites are unable to turn the trick against the La Grande shooters that he, himself, is willing to take up the matter for the honor of Pendleton.

Both Gurdane and Scheer have had a great deal of experience with revolvers. The latter has been on the force for the past 20 years and, though 66 years of age, has an aim that is good and true.

If the match is agreed to by the La Grande men it may be arranged that the local officers will hold a shoot before competent judges and have their scores matched with those of their opponents, or they are even willing to go to La Grande for the event.

PUBLIC SCHOOL PUPILS DO WELL IN SPELLING TEST GIVEN YESTERDAY

Grammar Grades, Above Third, and High School Classes Average 90.1 Per Cent—Ninety-four Perfect Papers Were Written—Test Was Unannounced.

As part of a definite program to increase the knowledge of La Grande public school pupils in spelling, arithmetic and language was an unannounced spelling test given yesterday in the grammar and high schools. The grades tested were from the fourth in the grammar school through and including the high school seniors. Six hundred and ninety-six took the test of 78 fourth grade words. The best showing was made by the sixth grade of the Greenwood school with 98 per cent.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

GENERAL WOOD SAYS MILITIA TOTAL FAILURE

"COLLAPSED AT BORDER," "SYSTEM VICIOUS AND UNDEPENDABLE," HE SAYS BEFORE SENATE COMMITTEE.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 31.—(United Press)—The senate military committee grilled General Leonard Wood today. He admitted the army quartermaster's department, "collapsed entirely" during the early stages of the mobilization. He said the militia was only 20 per cent trained and totally unfit for field service. He called the militia system "vicious and undependable."

He said: "The militia are drugged by praise and are returning from border sadder and wiser. The men realize it would have been wanton murder to send them against reasonably good troops."

Nicaragua's most important exports are coffee, gold, hides, bananas and cabinet woods. Exports of rubber have fallen off in the last few years.

GERMANY WARNS AMERICANS NOT TO ENTER FORBIDDEN ZONE

New Note Is Handed Ambassador Gerard in Berlin--Restrictions on Sea Fighting Withdrawn -- Unrestricted Warfare Starts Tomorrow Morning.

Berlin, via Sayville, Jan. 31.—(United Press)—A new German note was handed Ambassador Gerard. It replies to President Wilson's Senate speech. It announces the withdrawal of sea fighting restriction and asks that Americans be warned from ships entering the forbidden zone.

The note said unrestricted sea warfare would become effective tomorrow. The waters around all Allied countries are declared in the barred zone.

LATE NEWS BY WIRE

French Penetrate Second Line of German Trenches, Paris, Jan. 31.—(United Press)—It is announced that the French penetrated the second line of German trenches south of Lintrey, in a night attack. They killed and captured all defenders. Successful patrol engagements at Vosges are reported.

(Continued on Page Four)

Senate Passes Alaska Bone Dry Liquor Bill

Washington, D. C., Jan. 31.—(United Press)—The senate passed the bone-dry Alaska prohibition bill. This prohibits the manufacture and sale of liquor in Alaska and the shipment of liquor to Alaska.

REP. SMALL INTRODUCES HIGHWAY BILL

MEASURE PROVIDES FOR FUNDS FOR STATE ROAD FROM PORTLAND TO LA GRANDE AND BAKER.

Salem, Ore., Jan. 31.—(United Press)—Representative Small introduced a bill providing that 30 per cent of all Shackleford act funds and an equal amount from the state road funds be spent in constructing a state highway from Portland to Ontario via Hood River, The Dalles, Biggs, Arlington, Pendleton, La Grande and Baker.

The senate passed the Forbes house

(Continued on Page Eight.)

Y.M.C.A. FIRST TEAM DEFEATS UNION 42-24

Crack Federal Team of Neighboring City Puts Up Great Game.

The Y. M. C. A. first team basketball squad won a great victory last evening by defeating the crack Union Federal team by the score of 42 to 24. The score does not by any means show the class that was manifested by the two teams. The game was clearly the fastest game played on

(Continued on Page Five)

GRANDE RONDE MEAT CO. WILL ERECT BIG BUILDING

Meyers & Leiter Sign Lease on New Structure and Will Present First Class Attractions.

LEVY-VOGEL DRUG COMPANY WILL OCCUPY STORE. OFFICES TO BE UPSTAIRS

High Class Improvement at Depot Street and Adams Avenue on the Old Loftus Property Shows Faith the Owners, The Grande Ronde Meat Co., Have in La Grande. Theatre Will Seat 765 and Be Modern in Every Respect. C. B. Miller is the Architect.

La Grande is to have a beautiful new, modern theater. It will be erected at the corner of Depot and Adams Street by the Grande Ronde Meat Company, which recently purchased the Loftus property.

The announcement was made today that the new theater had been leased by Meyers and Leiter, proprietors of the Arcade Theater and that articles of agreement had been formally signed between them and the Grande Ronde Meat Company.

The improvement will consist of a combined theater building and a three story business block, fronting on Adams avenue, and the ground floor will be occupied by the Levy-Vogel Drug Co., and the upstairs of the business block by offices. C. B. Miller is the architect of the building, and he has also been given full charge of the erection of the structure.

The owners of the property, who will erect the building, are the Grande Ronde Meat Company. They have a large initial investment in the purchase of the ground and the additional investment which they will make in improving their property shows their faith and confidence in La Grande. The city has long needed a first-class theater and so Mr. J. A. Russell, president, Mr. F. A. Epling, secretary-treasurer, W. P. Mohr, vice-president, officers of the Grand Ronde Meat Company, and their stockholders, have determined to give La Grande a structure that will be in every way a credit to the city.

Meyers and Leiter made the following statement: "We have realized for some time that La Grande needed a first-class theater, where people could see the very best shows in comfort. The new theater will show the confidence the Grande Ronde Meat Company has in La Grande. The theater will be beautiful and modern in every respect. We will play Paramount, Triangle and Arcraft pictures, the best vaudeville, and also the very best traveling road attractions. We have already booked Lauraant, the great magician, Elsie Baker, the famous Victor singer and company, and the Ben Greet Famous Shakespearean Players. La Grande is our home, all of our interests are here, we are grateful to the public for liberal support, and we are glad that we soon will be able to present our attractions in the fine new home that the Grande Ronde Meat Company is erecting for us. Too much credit cannot be given to Architect Miller for the excellent plans that he has drawn."

The new theater will seat 765 people—500 on the lower floor and 265 in the balcony. Among the conveniences are a mothers' room and mezzanine floor. The seats will be leather upholstered. Heat for the building will be supplied from the central heating plant of the Grande Ronde Meat company and the building will be cooled from the refrigerating plant of the same company.

The success which Meyers & Leiter have had in the management of the Arcade theater in the comparatively short time that they have owned it is the main reason given for the erection of the proposed theater building by the Grande Ronde Meat company, the officers having confidence in their ability to manage the new theater.

The members of the Grande Ronde Meat company, the largest meat packing plant outside of Portland, are entreprising La Grande men, and since they have started to make the improvement they have decided to build in such substantial form as to meet the needs of La Grande in a theatrical way for many years.

Through the cooperation of the Ar-

cade and Sherry's, La Grande has been given the best in motion pictures and the proprietors of the new theater say their aim is to continue this high class entertainment, and improve it still further. The theater will answer splendidly as a city auditorium.

A full description of the theater follows:

(Continued on Page Seven)

THE WEATHER

Portland, Ore., Jan. 31.—(United Press)—The United States weather bureau report follows: Snow in the west; fair in the east portion tonight. Thursday probably snow and warmer. Southeasterly winds.

Second Seattle Bank Fails.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 31.—(United Press)—The German-American Mercantile bank failed today. The crash followed the failure of the Northern Bank & Trust company yesterday.