

"I'LL PAY MY BILLS SO YOU CAN PAY YOURS" IS A VERY GOOD SLOGAN AT ANY TIME

# La Grande Evening Observer

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## BELGIAN RELIEF SHIP SUNK, 17 LIVES LOST

## GERMANY ASKS SAFE CONDUCT FOR AMBASSADOR BERNSTORFF

## FORTY-ONE CALIFORNIA PASSENGERS MISSING

### GERMANY DETAINS AMBASSADOR GERARD

Americans Will Not Be Granted Passports Until Safe Conduct for Bernstorff is Assured. France Grants Request.

**BERLIN WILL NOT LET AMERICANS LEAVE.** (By Carl W. Ackerman, United Press Correspondent) Berlin, Feb. 8.—The German government will not permit Ambassador Gerard, American newspapermen, and American citizens to depart until assured that safe conduct will be granted Ambassador Bernstorff. It will not issue passports until it learns Washington's attitude on the old Prussian treaty, permitting citizens nine months to adjust their business after severance of diplomatic relations. Berlin is quiet. No demonstrations are made.

**FRANCE GRANTS SAFE CONDUCT TO AMBASSADOR BERNSTORFF.** Washington, Feb. 8.—(United Press)—The State Department learned that the French government had granted German Ambassador safe conduct through France. The state department expects immediate adjustment of the detention of Americans by Germany.

**Patrol Encounters Feature of Western Front Fighting.** Paris, Feb. 8.—(United Press)—It is announced that patrol encounters were the only feature of the western front fighting. The French captured the German party near Verdun.

**California's Officers Say No Warning Was Given.** London, Feb. 8.—(United Press)—The California's officers said two submarines attacked her. She sank in seven minutes. No warning was given. Latest reports said forty-three perished.

**Senator McCumber Declared Submarines Sank Many Merchantmen Without Warning and Without American Protest.** He said such events indicated America acquiesced in such warfare when Americans were not involved. Advances indicated that no neutrals would join in the American diplomatic break. The United States stands alone. Other neutrals protested and condemned Germany's course but refused further action.

**Submarines Sink Four British, One Swedish Ships.** London, Feb. 8.—(United Press)—It is announced that the following steamers were submerged: British ship Turino; British ship Hollinshide, crew saved; British ship Dauntless, two drowned, six wounded; British ship Boynecastle, and Swedish ship Varing.

**German Enlisted Men on Coast Guard Vessels Discharged.** Washington, D. C., Feb. 8.—(United Press)—It is learned that the coast guard service discharged all German enlisted men on coast guard vessels.

**Swiss Embassy Is Now Acting for Germany.** London, Feb. 8.—(United Press)—Ambassador Page notified the state department that the Swiss embassy is now handling German interests in Great Britain.

**U. S. Government Lays Mines at Mobile Harbor.** Mobile, Feb. 8.—(United Press)—The government started laying mines at the Mobile harbor entrance. All alien lighthouse tenders were dismissed.

**American Negro Is Killed on Submerged British Steamer.** London, Feb. 8.—(United Press)—It is announced that George Washington, an American negro fireman, perished when the British steamer Turino was submerged. Calvin Fillmore, an American, was rescued.

**Great Britain Grants Bernstorff Safe Conduct.** Washington, D. C., Feb. 8.—(United Press)—Great Britain granted Ambassador Bernstorff safe conduct. It was stipulated he must sail via Halifax and have his papers examined. This avoids routing him via Falmouth, through the submarine area.

### ABUTTING PROPERTY OWNER MAY SUE CITY

SECOND STREET PROPERTY OWNERS ASKS COMMISSION TO PURCHASE LAND.

JOHN SCHILLING SAYS VIADUCT WILL DAMAGE

Attorney Ivanhoe Intimates Suit—Commissioner McKennon Accepts Veiled Threat—Final Decision Deferred to Next Wednesday—Chief of Police, City Treasurer and Recorder Submit Reports.

A complication which threatens to hold up the building of the Second street viaduct appeared at last night's meeting of the city commission when Attorney F. S. Ivanhoe intimated that John Schilling, his client, who owns property near the proposed structure, would sue if the city did not grant Schilling damages. When the city some time ago planned a subway where it is not proposed to erect a viaduct, an agreement was reached with Schilling whereby the city acquired title to about half an acre of land of Schilling.

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Pendleton, La Grande and Baker to Idaho line.

This road should be built from Idaho through this country independently of any proposed road through Central Oregon, in order to accommodate eastern and local travel to Pendleton, Wallawa, Walla Walla, Spokane and other localities not now connected with Columbia highway as now constructed. This is an important commercial as well as a great scenic route through the Blue mountains.

Among the men who sent telegrams were: J. G. Snodgrass, F. L. Meyers, H. S. Brown, F. B. Currey, C. A. Galloway, L. H. Russell, Paul H. Spillman, Fred J. Holmes, Clarke Leiter, J. H. Peare, Dr. M. K. Hall, J. F. Phy, W. J. Townley, Turner Oliver, J. D. McKennon, Geo. H. Currey, Vincent Palmer.

### O-W PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES PLAN FOR IMPROVEMENTS

J. D. Farrell and Assistants Here Today for Conference With Local Officials—\$40,000 to Be Spent Here—Thirty-four Miles of 100-Pound Rails to Be Laid.

The improvements on this division of the O-W. R. & N. company include the laying of approximately 34 miles of 100-pound rails in the present year. These stretches of 100-pound rails will be the only roadbed of this kind west of Chicago.

The 13 miles between Union Junction and La Grande and the 21 miles between Baker and Lun will be laid with 100-pound rails. Forty thousand dollars will be expended in improvements in the La Grande yards. The budget includes an item for the highway crossing at Second street. A system of intercommunicating telephones between the local offices will be installed. A new rotary snowplow for this division has been ordered. Along with the other divisions of the Union Pacific system La Grande will benefit from the \$7,000,000 worth of new freight and refrigerator cars ordered. For a mile on either side of Kamela the main line will be double tracked. Approximately a dozen wooden bridges and trestles on this division

### Three Governors To Speak at Convention

Governor Withycombe of Oregon, Governor Lister of Washington and Governor Alexander of Idaho to Be Here.

S. O. Correll, of Baker, secretary of the Cattle and Horse Raisers' association, attended the meeting last night of the La Grande executive committee which is planning the arrangements for the convention here April 24 and 25. Mr. Correll outlined the program of speakers which includes Governor Lister of Washington, Governor Alexander of Idaho and Governor Withycombe of Oregon, George B. McMillan, livestock commission merchant of Kansas City; E. B. Reed, president of the Kansas City stockyards; T. W. Tomlinson, secretary National Livestock association; A. D. Dunn, Shorthorn breeder of Wapato, Wash.; Dr. W. T. Lytle, state veterinarian, and Ephraim Barnes, national forest service.

W. J. Townley is making arrangements to get the films of the International Livestock exhibition held at Chicago to show here during the convention.

Miss Haley, city librarian, has prepared a special list of books and pamphlets on the livestock industry, and has offered the use of the library as a rest room for visitors. This offer was accepted and Miss Haley was thanked for making it.

Mr. McCullough, city superintendent, reported on the progress that is being made on the school show which is to be one of the features of the entertainment. Mr. Scroggins reported on the plans for the big banquet which are progressing satisfactorily.

J. G. Snodgrass presided as chairman.

### Wilson's Inaugural To Be Very Simple

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8.—(United Press)—It is officially announced that President Wilson's second inauguration will be observed with the greatest possible simplicity on account of the international crisis.

### Mystery Woman Refuses to Tell Secrets

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8.—(United Press)—Mrs. Ruth Tomason Viscount, the mysterious woman, testified in the peace note leak probe today. She refused to tell where she got information that W. W. Pries, a newspaper man, received \$5000 as Secretary Tutumty's agent. Pries testified. He wept openly as he refused to tell where he got \$1000 last month.

### Woman Goes to Jail Implicated in Plot

San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 8.—(United Press)—Mrs. Margaret Cornell went to San Quentin to start serving a year sentence for implication in a German plot. She yelled at the judge: "Will pray for your death as long as I have breath left." Federal Judge Hunt gave Bopp and his associates until tomorrow to raise \$25,000 cash bail.

will be replaced this year with steel and concrete structures.

These announcements were made here today by President J. D. Farrell, Chief Engineer Sam Murray, General Superintendent M. J. Buckley, and Statistician G. F. Aahby, of the O-W. R. & N. company. The president and party are holding conferences this afternoon in the president's private car, "Maplewood," which is parked at the depot.

Clarke Leiter talked to the La Grande Boy Scouts Wednesday evening. Mr. Leiter told the young men that Washington and Lincoln, if they were alive, would approve the Boy Scout movement.

### BELGIAN RELIEF SHIP IS TORPEDOED

Seventeen Danish Sailors Perish When The Larkruse is Submerged Without Warning, and Unaware of Germany's Edict.

Copenhagen, Feb. 8.—(United Press)—It is learned that seventeen Danish sailors perished, when the Belgian relief ship, Larkruse, was torpedoed without warning. The relief ship entered the barred zone unaware of Germany's edict. She carried grain.

### FORTY-ONE ARE VICTIMS OF THE CALIFORNIA SUBMARINING.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8.—(United Press)—The Consul at Liverpool cabled there were one hundred and sixty-two California survivors. Forty-one are missing. Glasgow cabled the Anchor line that six women and five children are among the California missing. It is said the steamer was torpedoed without warning. The British consulate learned that three babies perished.

**Brazilian Battleship Fires on American Ship by Mistake.** Rio de Janeiro, Feb. 8.—(United Press)—A Brazilian battleship fired upon the American steamer Evelyn on account of misunderstood signals. The Evelyn was not damaged. She returned to the harbor and cleared up the misunderstanding.

**Secret Service Men Watch For Plots on the Border.** El Paso, Feb. 8.—(United Press)—United States secret service men are watching German agents at Juarez, Chihuahua. It is feared the Germans are planning a movement to finance border raids in the event of war.

**British Cruiser Halts Chilean Steamer, Removes Captain.** Lima, Peru, Feb. 8.—(United Press)—A British auxiliary cruiser late last night halted the Chilean steamer Maito off Callao and removed Captain Krauss, superintendent of the Komds line. It is charged Krauss gave Germany information regarding the Peruvian ship Lorton's movements. The Lorton was submerged.

**Government Asked to Define Submarine Policies.** Washington, D. C., Feb. 8.—(United Press)—Senator McCumber introduced a resolution asking that the attorney general announce the government's official views on limited submarining, when warnings are given before torpedoing, and also regarding American vessels carrying mails. Senator McCumber said the resolution was offered so that all belligerents would clearly understand what acts may make the United States fight. The senate plans to discuss the resolution later.

### Nearly 300,000 Acres Are Apportioned by Land Office

Over \$23,000 Has Been Received From Filings—Two Temporary Clerks Are in Office—"Rush" Is Now Decreasing.

Since the enactment of the 640-acre homestead law officials of the local United States land office state there has been 297,989.53 acres of public domain apportioned. There has been received in connection with these filings over \$23,000. Two temporary clerks are employed to assist in recording the entries. Register Dunn and Receiver Skiff are of the opinion the rush is practically over as there has been a gradual decrease in filing during the past two weeks.

Advance copies of instructions under this law have been issued by the secretary of the interior and is known as circular number 523, stock raising homestead act of December 29, 1916 (Public No. 290)—instructions. There will be none of these circulars for distribution until the local office receives a supply sufficient to meet all demands. The register and receiver will compile instructions taken from this circular and publish the same in the newspapers throughout the district as a matter of news. The following filings have been received subsequent to January 24:

Earl F. Barnard, Hamilton, 400 acres.  
J. Villott Merrill, Monument, 320 acres.

Bert Roy Lofton, Trester, 320 acres.  
Alonzo T. Merrill, Monument, 317-89 acres.  
J. Frank Turner, Medical Springs, 481.55 acres.  
James O. Turner, Medical Springs, 640 acres.  
James W. Love, Durkee, 320 acres.  
Jesse Ackerman, Pleasant Valley, 320 acres.  
Oscar R. Hindman, Durkee, 520 acres.  
Orlan D. McCulley, Ritter, 294.04 acres.  
Frederick W. Rader, Ritter, 640 acres.  
Earl Mulkey, Long Creek, 480 acres.  
Alfred T. Meyer, Ritter 640 acres.  
William H. McCulley, Hood River, 640 acres.  
John C. Powell, Monument, 40 acres.  
R. Sherman Blackwell, Monument, 320 acres.  
Benjamin S. Crisp, Durkee, 320 acres.  
John W. Harryman Monument, 320 acres.  
Samuel V. Cochran, Monument, 240 acres.  
Jasper N. Leslie, Monument, 160 A.  
Carl Minker, Monument, 320 A.  
William E. Cahill, Wallula, Wash., 475.48 A.

(Continued on Page Four)

### CITY WANTS HIGHWAY; DO YOU?

In response to the question, "Do you want the state highway?" over 30 telegrams last night were sent to Salem from La Grande. La Grande's position was made clear and certain. But there is always a tendency to quit too soon. La Grande should send 30 more telegrams tonight; and 30 more tomorrow night; and keep it up until the present legislature recognizes Eastern Oregon in road legislation. The Inland Empire and the principal cities in the Inland Empire now ask the "tribute that is Caesar's."

Eastern Oregon should have a through paved highway to the coast; and Eastern Oregon will insist until due recognition is given.

The following telegram was a "blanket" one sent to members of the ways and means committee, the president of the senate, the speaker of the house, members of the Portland delegation and the senators and representatives of Southern and Eastern Oregon:

Please use every effort possible to continue Columbia highway through