

"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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## INSIDE STORY OF THE BREAK WITH GERMANY

SEVERANCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ASTONISHED BERLIN. THEY BELIEVED PRESIDENT WOULD NOT DARE TO ACT.

### GENERAL VON HINDENBURG BELIEVES THAT SUBMARINES WILL WIN IN PRESENT WAR

He is Awaiting 'an Opportunity for a Decisive Battle. French Munitions Are Thought to Be Low. German Internal Affairs Reached Crisis in November When the People Were Destitute and Despondent. Powerful Influences Demanded Unlimited Submarining. Militants Are Anxious For War With United States.

(By Carl W. Ackerman, United Press Correspondent.) Berne, Switzerland, Feb. 13.—The severance of diplomatic relations astonished Berlin.

German-Americans in the United States assured the officials President Wilson would not dare act fearing international trouble.

Chancellor Hollweg was admittedly downcast when Ambassador Gerard departed.

Foreign Secretary Zimmerman was nervous when he bade farewell to the American correspondents. He insisted "President Wilson wants war".

General Von Hindenburg believes submarines will win the war before the United States enters. He is awaiting an opportunity for decisive battle.

Germans think French munitions are low on account of coal famine. Militarists are anxious to fight the United States. Newspapers are urging caution.

Censorship is severest for the last three months. Correspondents are unable truly to depict the German conditions. Censors passed dispatches designed to influence American public opinion, but halted all others.

Germany's internal affairs reached a crisis in November. The people were destitute and despondent.

Socialists threatened a militant peace movement unless the Kaiser asked for peace immediately.

Powerful anti-American land owners and industrial leaders demanded unlimited submarining.

National Liberals, seeking American war, enlisted Foreign Secretary Zimmerman's aid in ruthless submarining.

Hollweg's peace speech won the Socialists. The Allies reply greatly frightened Turkey.

The Allies reply greatly frightened Turkey. The Sultan must continue fighting while the Germans defend Constantinople. General Von Hindenburg absolutely controls Bulgaria.

IF YOU WANT A HIGHWAY THROUGH EASTERN OREGON, WRITE THIS LETTER TO BUSINESS HOUSES YOU PATRONIZE IN PORTLAND AND ELSEWHERE IN OREGON:

To: House Bill 323 now pending before the Legislature, places the extension of the Columbia Highway through La Grande. We are each year increasing our business with Portland and should remain tributary to that city.

Our business relations have always been very pleasant, and you would do me a great favor if you would immediately write your delegation in the Legislature, and ask them to support House Bill 323.

Yours truly,

Copies of this letter may be obtained at this office.

## EASTERN OREGON HIGHWAY IS IN GREAT DANGER

A GRANDE BUSINESS MEN URGED TO GET BACK OF HOUSE BILL 323.

### SUPPORT OF OUTSIDE LEGISLATORS NEEDED

At Meeting of Business Men at Luncheon It Is Pointed Out That Highway Through Eastern Oregon May Be Left Out of State Program—Rev. C. A. Edwards Speaks on Lincoln.

La Grande, and Baker, and Pendleton, in fact Union, Wallowa, Umatilla and Baker counties must be busy or they will be left out of the state highway program, said George T. Cochran at the meeting of the La Grande business men at luncheon at noon at the Sommer hotel today.

Mr. Cochran urged everyone present to write to their friends in the legislature and to their business associates in Portland and the Willamette valley to support house bill 323, which establishes a state highway through the Dalles, Biggs, Pendleton, La Grande and Baker to the Idaho line.

As indicated in another column there is an effort on foot to leave this part of Eastern Oregon out of the state highway program, and it will require determined work on the part of Eastern Oregon to head this off.

A committee to look after the campaign.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

## SUBMARINING CLOSES GRAIN ELEVATORS

MARKET BREAKS, WHEAT DROPS TWO TO THREE CENTS IN CHICAGO.

### SIX MORE ELEVATORS ARE SOON TO CLOSE

They Cannot Ship Grain Since All Western Railroads Have Placed Embargo on Grain Shipments Eastward—Dealers Predict Complete Demoralization of the Market.

Chicago, Feb. 13.—(United Press)—Submarining caused five grain elevators to close. The market broke and May wheat dropped two cents, July three cents and September two and a half cents.

It was announced that six additional grain elevators would soon close as they cannot ship any grain.

All western railroads have embargoed grain shipments eastward. Dealers predicted a complete demoralization of the market unless relief is forthcoming.

Embargo Effective From Here.

The La Grande freight agent of the O-W. R. & N. company today said that an embargo had been on some eastern points for the past ten days and that the number of places was constantly growing.

Inability of the consignees to unload cars was the cause given by him but this cause may be the result of fewer carriers on the Atlantic seaboard since the inauguration of the German unlimited submarining policy, February 1.

## STATE HIGHWAY BONDS PROPOSED AT SALEM

JOINT ROADS AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE OF SENATE AND HOUSE PROPOSE TO SUBMIT TWO BILLS

### PROPOSED TO RAISE FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS ANNUALLY FROM AUTOMOBILE LICENSES

Bills Provided For Construction of Roads Through Eastern Oregon Through Whatever Counties Agree to Establish Rock Work Foundation. Road From La Grande To Joseph Proposed. Bend, Klamath Falls, Crater Lake, Medford, Eugene, Roseburg, Myrtle Point. All Get Roads.

Salem, Feb. 13.—(United Press)—The state highway bonding program was launched today.

Joint Senate and House Roads Highways committees conferred at noon and discussed the proposed two bills.

One provides for the construction of highways, another for increased Automobile licenses for the purpose of raising half million dollars annually.

The bill provides for the construction of a road from Multnomah County to Eugene via Harrisburg, Forest Grove and McMinnville. It extends the Columbia Highway from Multnomah to Astoria. It plans to build a road through eastern Oregon through whatever counties agree to establish rock-work foundations.

It is additionally planned to build a system of rock post roads from Eugene to the California line, Roseburg to Myrtle Point, McMinnville to Tillamook, Medford to Crater Lake, Klamath Falls to Medford, The Dalles to Bend and Klamath Falls, Bend to Lakeview, Eugene to Coos Bay, La Grande to Joseph.

The House killed Crandall's bill fixing maximum passenger fares. The Railroad Commission recommended indefinite postponement.

### Three Americans Among the Savonian Survivors.

London, Feb. 13.—(United Press)—Three Americans were among the fifteen Savonian survivors. They landed safely. The Savonian was submarined February 8th, and one American injured. The English boatswain died of his wounds. The life boats drifted for sixty-eight hours.

### Motor Men Meet Tonight.

The members of the La Grande Auto & Motorcycle Dealers' association will meet tonight at 7:30 in the Y. M. C. A. to discuss plans for the coming automobile and motorcycle show.

## U. S. TO SPEND \$369,000,000

Washington, Feb. 13.—(United Press)—The house passed appropriations amounting to \$369,000,000.

## LINER AFRIC IS SUBMARINED

THIS IS THE BIGGEST VICTIM SO FAR OF UNRESTRICTED WARFARE.

London, Feb. 12.—(United Press)—It is announced that the White Star liner Afric, has been submarined. She was a steel vessel of 12,000 tons.

She is the biggest victim so far of the unrestricted submarining. Seventeen sailors are missing. The admiralty stated that the explosion killed five sailors outright. It is admitted that the Afric was engaged in government service, probably as a transport.

Mrs. Ward Smith of Starkey is a visitor in the city today.

## BRITISH WARSHIPS FORM LANE ACROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN

New York, Feb. 12.—(United Press)—Passengers from England declared that British warships formed a lane across the Atlantic.

Wireless communication between the patrols and the admiralty are never interrupted.

Warships watch all trans-Atlantic essels, attempting to prevent submarines from entering the safety lane.

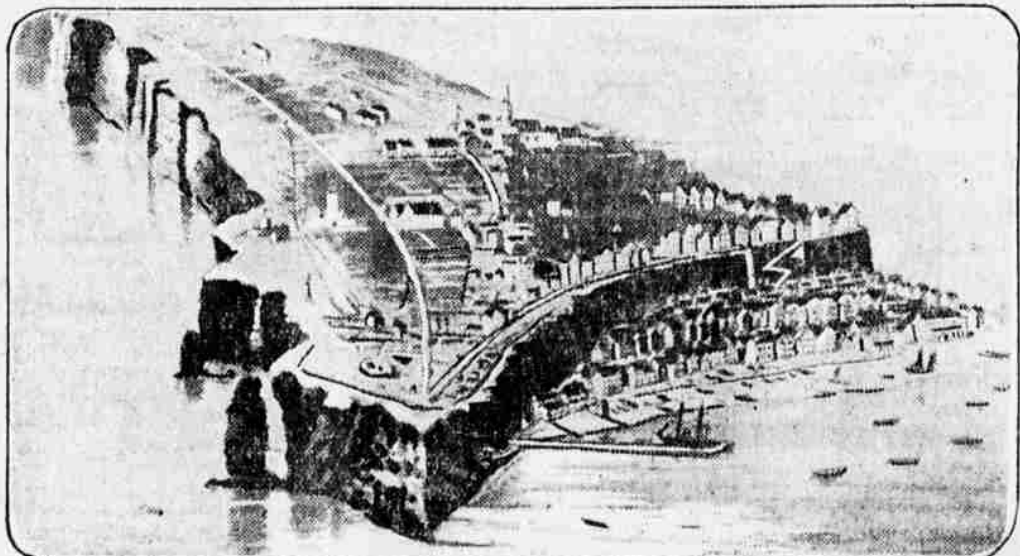
### Dense Fog Limits Fighting on the Western Front.

Berlin, via Sayville, Feb. 13.—It is announced that a dense fog has limited the fighting activity on the Western front. Artillerying has been resumed at the Somme Sector. The British raiders were repulsed between Ypres and Arras.

## THE WEATHER

Portland, Ore., Feb. 13.—(United Press)—The weather forecast: Fair; northeast winds.

## GERMANY IS GUARDED BY A MIDSEA GIBRALTAR!



Hostile war vessels are prevented from approaching Germany's coast by the fortified island of Heligoland, in the North sea, which Germany acquired from Great Britain in 1890 and turned into the world's strongest island fortress. This island now guards both Germany's North sea port and the Kiel canal. The island covers only one-fifth of a square mile, and since the war its civilian inhabitants have all been removed, so it is exclusively a military and naval post, holding defensive engines that can only be guessed at. The fortifications extend for a mile and a half along the summit of the cliffs. The small map shows Heligoland's strategic position for the defense of Bremen and Hamburg.

