

La Grande Evening Observer

PHONE OBSERVER YOUR WANT ADS. MAIN 37

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

PHONE THE OBSERVER YOUR NEWS. MAIN 37

VOLUME XVI.

LA GRANDE, OREGON. FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1917

NUMBER 217.

CARRANZA TO BE ASKED TO TAKE STAND VILLA WILL AID GERMANY IN CASE OF WAR WITH U. S. PRESIDENT WILSON ORGANIZES A WAR COUNCIL

ADMIRAL FLETCHER TO SEE CARRANZA

Mexican Chief Will Be Asked His Attitude Toward German Plot --- Villa Is Expected To Aid Germany

Washington, March 2.—(United Press)—The British embassy denied any knowledge of the Zimmermann plot letter before the administration revealed it. This announcement answered hints that the Allies representatives gave President Wilson the letter.

The state department instructed Ambassador Fletcher to see Carranza today and ask Mexico's attitude as to the German plot. Villa's border agents reported that Villa would probably join Germany in the event of a German-American war. They received no direct expression as to Villa's attitude. His present whereabouts as a mystery.

PRESIDENT ORGANIZES A WAR COUNCIL.

Washington, March 2.—(United Press)—A war council is being organized. It includes President Wilson, cabinet members and industrial experts. It is strictly a coalition affair. The members of every political party are represented. It is learned that President Willard, of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad heads the transportation department. It is believed that Samuel Gompers will direct the labor division.

TWO AMERICANS PERISHED WHEN BRITISH BARGE IS TORPEDOED

Washington, March 2.—(United Press)—The state department learned that Germany officially agreed to release the Yarrowdale prisoners. They will leave Germany soon. Official dispatches tended to confirm the report that two Americans perished in the torpedoing of the British barge Calgeria and Castel en route from Buenos Aires to Queens-town.

SENATE WILL CONSIDER ARMED SHIP BILL TODAY.

Washington, March 2.—(United Press)—Senator Stone moved that the Senate take up for consideration the armed ship bill. Senator La Follette demanded a vote which carried sixty-four to fifteen. The vote indicated the bill's passage by a big margin. The discussion was postponed until after the naval bill passes late this afternoon.

The Senate adopted the naval bill amendment providing a million and a half dollar appropriation for San Francisco bay base. The navy department strongly urged the appropriation.

American Steamer Runs the Blockade

Bordeaux, March 2.—(United Press)—The American steamer, Rochester, arrived. It ran the blockade and grounded in the Gironde River. She was refloated immediately.

British Report Sinking Submarine

New Orleans, March 2.—(United Press)—Officers of the British steamer Knight Companion reported sinking a submarine in the eastern Atlantic.

Elks Elects Officers; N. A. Desilet Is E. R.

The following officers were elected at the election of Elks last night: N. A. Desilet, exalted ruler; F. W. Bay, leading knight; C. R. Harding, loyal

knight; R. J. Green, lecturing knight; A. B. Rogers, secretary; O. F. Coolidge, treasurer; J. C. Gulling, tyler; and C. D. Emahiser, trustee.

T. J. Scroggin was elected representative to the grand lodge which meets in Boston in July. H. J. Ritter was made alternate.

**SENATE VOTES
\$150,000,000
BOND ISSUE**

**MONEY IS TO BE USED TO BUILD
SUBMARINES AND HASTEN
NAVAL CONSTRUCTION**

Washington, March 2.—(United Press)—The Senate approved the hundred and fifty million dollar bond issue for the purpose of building submarines. The money is to be used also in hastening the naval construction program.

SENATE WILL PASS BILL TO ARM SHIPS

PRESIDENT WILL BE EMPOWERED TO EMPLOY GUNNERS AND EXPEND BIG FUND.

HOUSE BILL WILL BE IGNORED AND SUBSTITUTED

President Will Sign the Bill Immediately and Then Issue Executive Order Arming American Merchantmen—If They Are Fired On It Will Be An "Act of War."

Washington, March 2.—(United Press)—It is considered certain that the Senate will pass the bill empowering the President to arm ships, employ gunners, and expend a big fund, and "use other instrumentalities" to protect Americans on the high seas. There will be eight hours debate before the Senate votes on the bill.

The Senate is scheduled to ignore the House bill empowering the President arm vessels but withholding "other instrumentalities." It will send the Senate measure to the House as a substitute. The House is expected to accept the Senate's bill.

President Wilson plans to sign the bill immediately. He will then issue an executive order arming the American merchantmen. The government will consider a hostile attack on such vessels as "an act of war" and take steps accordingly.

Naval Bill Passed. Washington, D. C., March 2.—(United Press)—The Senate unanimously passed the half billion dollar naval bill. Debate has started on the armed ship bill.

New Volley Ball Teams Are Selected

Crowe's Team Won Last Series—Names of New Teams Suggestive of Captains' Occupations.

Crowe's team of Y. M. C. A. volleyball players won the series of games which ended Tuesday night.

Four new captains were named after the last games and these drew for players. Names of the new teams were chosen as suggestive of the captains' occupations. For instance, there's Dixon who'd rather argue than eat, and Charlie Harding, whose banking proclivities tend to make him dictatorial; and Norman Frees, added and abetted by Crowe, who is a good pleader; and Linden McCullough whose volubility overshadows Captain Lynn Bohnenkamp's quietness. So the names and the members of the teams are:

Arguers—H. E. Dixon, captain; Don Scott, J. F. Ingle, H. F. Kinne, Chas. Bohnenkamp and Charles Gore; Dictators—Charles Harding, captain; Dr. J. P. Graham, F. L. Meyers, T. J. Scroggin, J. Fulkerson, C. D. Emahiser, Gordon Powers; Pleaders—Norman Frees, captain; Elmer Stoddard, S. D. Crowe, George T. Cochran, A. H. Prince, A. C. Hampton, Lawrence Dinneen, Pat Foley; Debaters—Lynn Bohnenkamp, William Kelly, William Miller, Linden McCullough, Paul Spillman, G. F. Larison and Earl Stoddard.

By planting wild trees and shrubs bearing fruit about the home, the householder can attract birds and at the same time protect cultivated fruits from their ravages.

GEORGE STODDARD'S BODY ARRIVES HOME

"EVERYMAN" MEETS FUNERAL TRAIN AND ESCORTS REMAINS.

FIVE SONS AND BROTHER TO ACT AS PALLBEARERS

Relatives Arrive for Funeral—Body to Lie in State in L. D. S. Tabernacle Sunday From 11:00 to 12:00—No Services in Church Sunday Morning—La Grande Man's Death Is One of Two Similar Cases in a Thousand Santa Cruz Physician Has Lost.

There will be no services in the La Grande tabernacle, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, on account of the funeral of George E. Stoddard. The body will lie in state in the tabernacle from 11 to 12 Sunday.

"Everyman" of La Grande was at the train at 11:25 this morning when the body of George E. Stoddard came back to the land where George E. Stoddard in life was known and loved. Every profession—medicine, law, labor, business, teacher, minister—all was represented. Probably three hundred people were at the depot. A hundred men marched in front of the hearse to the Stoddard home. Six, George H. Currey, A. B. Cherry, J. G. Snodgrass, Vincent Palmer, Charles Reynolds and W. R. Jones, the last men in the line, acted as an escort to the hearse.

Mrs. George E. Stoddard, the widow; H. H. Stoddard of Santa Cruz, Cal., a brother; Mrs. Ellen Eccles of Logan, Utah, a sister; Mrs. Ellen Stoddard of Logan, Utah, the mother, and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Stoddard of Watsonville, Cal., arrived on the train with the body. Frank Bramwell of Grants Pass and C. W. Nibley of Salt Lake City will be here tomorrow or Sunday for the funeral.

The body will lie in state in the Latter Day Saints tabernacle from 11:00 a. m. to 12:00 noon, Sunday. The pallbearers will be the five sons of the dead man, Earl, Elmer, David, John and Howard, and Willard Stoddard of Baker, a brother.

C. P. Ferrin of Grants Pass, formerly of La Grande, will probably be here for the funeral. Melvin Ballard of Portland, president of the western states mission of the Church of Jesus of Latter Day Saints, will probably speak, and perhaps sing, at the funeral services.

Elmer Stoddard today said: "Father's death was due to acute dilation of the stomach from which he could not rally. His death was one of the two which the Santa Cruz physician has lost in over a thousand cases of the same kind. The best of physicians and surgeons attended father. At one consultation four of the best physicians on the Pacific coast were present. Father had rallied from the operation performed upon him and at the time of his death the wound had nearly healed and he was in apparently normal health."

School Board Meets Tonight. The school board of La Grande school district No. 1 will meet tonight.

AMERICAN LINERS ARE TO BE ARMED

Guns and Ammunition Are Mobilized at Navy Yards Ready for Instant Use of American Merchantmen

Washington, March 2.—(United Press)—It is authoritatively stated that the navy department gathered guns at the Brooklyn, Philadelphia and Norfolk Navy Yards and has mobilized ammunition to be ready for instant use of American ships. Four American liners are scheduled to be first armed. They will probably carry six-inch guns. Smaller vessels will carry three-inch guns.

British Prize Court To Confiscate American Ships.

London, March 2.—(United Press)—The British prize court refused to postpone the confiscation of the steamers Kankakee, Hocking, Genesee. They fly American flags. It is alleged they are German owned.

German Raids Repulsed.

Paris, March 2.—(United Press)—It is announced that the simultaneous German raids were repulsed at West Soissons. The French raided the German Argonne trench capturing prisoners. Artillery duelling continues at Avocourt Woods.

Turkish Retreat Turns Into a Rout.

London, March 2.—(United Press)—Official dispatches said the Turkish Mesopotamian retreat was a rout. The demoralized Turks fled through Asisiyah Tuesday, the British closely pursuing. Forty-three hundred prisoners were taken.

Hand-to-Hand Fighting Features Engagement

Berlin, via Sayville, March 2.—(United Press)—It is announced that hand-to-hand fighting featured the German repulse of the British attack at Southeast House. Reconnoitering advances were defeated between Ypres and Arras. Twenty prisoners and one machine gun were taken. Thirty prisoners and three machine guns were captured at the Aene sector. On the Eastern front fighting has increased.

Kaiser Has Chill.

Amsterdam, March 2.—(United Press)—Berlin reported that the Kaiser has suffered a severe chill. He is confined to his room. Physicians are not apprehensive. They are taking all the precautions.

OFFICIAL SAYS WAR IS CERTAIN

Paris, March 2.—(United Press)—The Le Temps quoted an American embassy official saying: "War with Germany is inevitable."

Union Beef Bulls Sell At \$230 Each

Union Ore., March 2.—(Special)—Forty-three yearling blooded Short-horn bulls shipped today by W. W. Green, W. J. Townley and G. W. De Lay of Union to the Pendleton Meat company brought \$230 each, or a total of \$9890.

THE WEATHER

Portland, March 1.—(United Press)—The weather forecast: Fair; east winds.

Bulk Grain Meeting Is Attended by 100

About 100 Union and Wallowa county grain growers attended the bulk grain meeting in the city hall this morning and afternoon. Among the speakers were Mr. Stone, representing the Port of Astoria; Paul V. Maris, state leader of county agricultural agents; Mr. Adkisson, grain grower of Wasco county, and I. E. Chenault of La Grande, who have handled grain in bulk; Walter M. Pierce, author of the grain standardization law passed by the recent legislature; Prof. G. R. Hyslop of O. A. C., and W. J. Case of Alicel.

Sent Spies to Great Britain; Is Indicted

New York, March 2.—(United Press)—The federal grand jury indicted George Vauxbacon, Albert A. Sander and Charles W. Wundenberg on the charge of "launching a military enterprise for a foreign government in the United States." It is alleged they sent American newspaper men to Great Britain as "observers."