

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.

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NUMBER 234.

UNITED STATES IS SPEEDING UP FOR WAR GERMANY TORPEDOES ANOTHER AMERICAN SHIP

GERMANS REPORTED PLANNING TO INVADE U. S. FROM MEXICO

THOUSANDS HAVE GONE TO MEXICO TO FORM AN ARMY.

Arrival of Steamer Vera at Galveston Brings News of Movement Fomenting in Mexico Against United States—Many German Reservists Are Said To Be Equipping Mexicans.

Galveston, March 23.—(United Press)—Officers of the Norwegian steamer Vera arriving this afternoon from Portobarríos report that thousands of Germans have entered Mexico through Guatama with the acknowledged intention of forming an army to wage war in America.

Many German reservists are heading the movement and equipping Mexicans.

FOUR REGIMENTS OF REGULARS ORDERED TRANSFERRED FROM EL PASO

El Paso, March 23.—(United Press)—Four regiments of regulars were ordered transferred from El Paso to other points for service at civilian military training camps. The dates of departure and exact destination are withheld.

BIG STEAMER GOES AGROUND

Vancouver, B. C., March 23.—(United Press)—Grand Trunk Pacific steamer Prince Rupert grounded on Glenn Island one mile east of Lawyers Island Light during a heavy snowstorm. She is reported extensively damaged. Boats rescued the passengers. The salvage steamer Salvor rushed to the scene from Victoria this morning.

Allies Recognize Russian Government

London, March 23 (United Press)—It is announced that all the allies have accorded full recognition to the new Russian government.

Petrograd, March 23.—(United Press)—English, French and other ambassadors today followed the example of American Ambassador Francis and formally conveyed to Foreign Minister Milukoff, the recognition of their nations to the new Russian government.

Munitions Steamers Reported Blown Up

Boston, March 23.—(United Press)—The Steamer British Transport arrived today bringing a story of being in Archangel when two American munitions steamers were blown up, killing fifteen hundred people.

Bluestem Sells In Portland For \$1.75

Portland, March 23.—(United Press)—Five thousand bushels of May bluestem sold at a dollar seventy-five, the highest price ever recorded here.

Listen To This, Snow and Gale

Portland, March 23.—(United Press)—The weather forecast: Rain or snow in East; gale near coast.

The Hague Reports Kaiser Has Break Down

The Hague, March 23.—(United Press)—The Kaiser is on the verge of a nervous breakdown. He has gone to the Hamburg health resort, private messages declared. He will receive Hollweg there instead of at German headquarters.

GERMANS ARE NEARING THEIR LINE OF FORTS

BRITISH AND FRENCH TROOPS ARE ENCOUNTERING STIFFER RESISTANCE.

London, March 23.—(United Press)—The pursuing British and French troops are encountering fire from the German big guns, clearly indicating the Allies are nearing the Hindenburg line where permanent fortifications and heavy artillery have long been prepared.

Front dispatches indicate fierce fighting. The French are still leading the chase.

The German resistance is stiffening.

Germans Send Many Captives To Front

Lucerne, Switzerland, March 23.—(United Press)—Germany sent many captives to the front lines as reprisals the Red Cross officials asserted.

General Nivelle Drives Back Germans

Paris, March 23.—(United Press)—The French advanced toward Ailette and North Soissons. General Nivelle stingingly defeated the Germans north of St. Simona driving them with heavy losses to Grand Seracourt.

Timber To Be Sold To Benefit Indians

Washington, March 23.—(United Press)—The Indian commissioner advertises for sale six hundred and thirty million feet of timber in Klamath Indian reservation. He said "he hoped this will relieve the acute timber situation." Three tracts included in the call for bids are mostly yellow sugar pine. The minimum price is three dollars a thousand in one tract, three twenty-five in the other two. Funds raised are to be used to put the Klamath Indians on a self-supporting economic basis.

Bruce Dennis left last night for Portland to open headquarters for the Good Roads campaign.

MRS. EVA HUTCHINSON'S HUSBAND IS DEAD

PORTLAND POLICE PUZZLED OVER PERLEY P. LENT'S DEATH.

FATAL SHOT FIRED LATE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON

Wife Is Well Known Here Where She Lived for Number of Years.—Mrs. Lent Finds Body on Return to Carlotta Apartments Home From Work

Portland, Ore., March 23.—(United Press)—Perley P. Lent, 32 years old, a real estate man, was found dead with a bullet wound in his head, in his apartment at the Carlotta Court last night at 7 p. m., by his wife when she returned from work.

As Mrs. Lent, who was formerly Mrs. Eva Hutchinson of La Grande, walked down the hall to their apartment she encountered a man who had apparently just left the Lent apartment. She inquired if there was something he wanted of them, but the man refused to give his name or state his business and hurried down the hall and out of the building.

Mrs. Lent then entered the apartment and found her husband lying dead crosswise on the bed. A .38-caliber revolver was lying on the floor in front of the bed.

Motorcycle Patrolmen Irvin, Tully and Morris made an investigation and notified Deputy Coroner Smith, who took the body to the morgue.

Efforts are being made to locate the stranger whom Mrs. Lent saw apparently coming from the apartment. Four months ago Mr. Lent was married and, as far as is known, had no enemies.

George B. Lent, father of the dead man, a lawyer with offices in the Corbett building, also occupied by his son, stated last night that Mr. Lent was entertaining a party of three or four men at his apartment during the afternoon.

The gun found on the floor was owned by Mr. Lent.

Mrs. Lent Well Known Here.—Mrs. Perley P. Lent (Mrs. Eva Hutchinson) is well known here where she lived for a number of years. She is the step-daughter of John Hawley.

Elks Initiate Class Of 22 Last Night

District Deputy C. C. Bradley of Portland Here for Ceremonies—Another Class of About the Same Size Will Be Ready in Short Time.

Twenty-two men were ushered into Elksdom last night in the Elks club building. They were: Rex Greene, G. A. McNeill, D. B. Pidcock, H. E. Goss, Virgil Bolton, T. J. Curran, Thomas Bates, Fred Spaeth, O. L. Voelz, M. J. Sullivan, William Driskell, W. S. Parker, James Lindenberg, R. L. Heryford, Charles Grandy, Alec Ferguson, J. H. Walker, John Monnier, H. R. Davis and Wilbur Salisbury, of La Grande; J. J. Brugger of Elgin, and E. B. Tucker of Vincent.

The evening's activities began with the "visit" of the district deputy in which representatives of 19 different lodges participated. Over 200 Elks were in the club rooms. After the "visit" the class was initiated and then all the vaudeville acts in the city, borrowed for the evening, entertained the lodgemen.

H. E. Coolidge presided at the banquet which followed the vaudeville. Another class, about as large as the one whose members were admitted last night, will be initiated within the next fortnight.

Miss Mary Helen Corbett and Master Paul Corbett have entered the Catholic Sisters' school. Paul and Joe Corbett have entered the high school.

REPORTS OF A REVOLUTION ARE BRANDED FALSE

RUMORS OF TROUBLE BREWING ARE SAID TO BE SPREAD BY ALLIES.

GERMANY IS REPORTED TO BE UNITED

German Officials and People Are Satisfied with the Submarine War and Are Ready to Make All Sacrifices Because Confident of Ultimate Victory.

BY JOHN GRANDENS
Berlin, March 23.—(United Press)—No revolution is on in Germany.

Rumors of trouble breeding are merely the result of the entente's wish being father to the thought.

Germany is united and confident. The German officials and people are satisfied with submarine war, and are ready to make sacrifices because confident of victory.

Asks Americans Not To Forget Belgians

People of United States Have Given Nine Cents Per Capita; Tasmania \$6.50; and New Zealand \$1.25.

The sixth War Relief message of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, called "An Easter Message," quotes Herbert C. Hoover as saying that "America is only beginning to allow the awful burden of suffering and destitution to rest upon her conscience."

The message has just been mailed to nearly 100,000 individual churches. The first message was issued in May, 1916.

It lays stress upon the spirit of self sacrifice shown by the peoples of the countries which have been involved in the war. While America has given nine cents per capita for relief in Belgium, Tasmania has given \$6.50 and New Zealand \$1.25, Canada has given much more in proportion to her numbers than the United States for Belgium and for the relief of Armenians and Syrians, besides raising an army of a half million men and boys with all the accompanying burdens. The people of the warring countries, it is said, have definitely accepted the spirit of sacrifice during the continuance of the war. This, the message asserts, few Americans have done.

The liberality of certain churches and individuals is recounted in the message. While the American people have given less than 20 cents per capita per year since the war began, a little church at Owings, South Carolina, of 40 members, half of them children and none well-to-do, gives \$40 per month. A small church at Pomfret, Conn., gives regularly at the rate of \$5.00 per capita per year. An Episcopal rector was given a legacy of \$1,000. He wrote that he didn't need it at that time, and couldn't use it while the world is suffering so terribly, and turned it over to the Federal Council for War Relief. A chauffeur sent \$20. A wealthy New York man has given \$100,000 anonymously in monthly instalments and has recently increased these monthly gifts.

The churches of the country are urged to take a special War Relief offering on Easter Sunday and to inaugurate the plan already followed by many churches of giving regularly to War Relief by a system of pledges of weekly or monthly gifts.

Says Roads Are Bad.

Ernest Vehrs yesterday made a trip through the Grande Ronde valley. He was able to drive his automobile to Alicel but from there on had to ride horseback. He says the roads are in bad condition.

PRESIDENT AND CABINET ARE PREPARING FOR HOSTILITIES

Railroads Ask For Increased Rates

Washington, March 23.—(United Press)—The railroads petitioned the interstate commerce commission asking a general increase of 10 to 25 per cent on all freight and passenger rates to cover increased cost of operation under the Adamson law.

SCHEDULE FOR MOTOR CAR TO ELGIN PLANNED

CAR WILL START FROM ELGIN IN MORNING AND MAKE TWO ROUND TRIPS.

A tentative schedule meeting all the requirements of the Elgin people has been worked out by H. W. Hicks, of the passenger department of the O.-W. R. & N. Co., for the new motor car service which will be started between La Grande and Elgin about April 1, or as soon as snow conditions permit.

The schedule follows:

Leave Elgin 7:30 a. m., arrive in La Grande at 8:35 a. m., connect with Train 17 for Portland and Pendleton and will also allow people of Elgin to send their children to La Grande to high school, and attend morning session of court.

Leave La Grande at 11:40 a. m. and arrive in Elgin 12:45, connection with Train 6 from Portland and Pendleton.

This will permit Elgin and neighboring points to come to La Grande and transact business and return in half a day.

Leave Elgin 1:10 p. m., arrive La Grande 2:15 p. m. Stay here two hours and five minutes.

Leave La Grande at 4:20 p. m., arrive at Elgin at 5:20 p. m., taking back children who came down to attend high school and those who came down to attend court.

Plans Under Way To Entertain Visitors

The executive committee of the Oregon Cattle and Horse Raisers' convention met last evening at the Sommer hotel. Those present were J. G. Snodgrass, chairman, G. L. Larison, Fred B. Curvey, C. D. Emahiser, T. J. Scroggin, F. E. Stillwell, Andrew Blokland and Clarke Leiter. The heads of committees made reports, duties were assigned to the members, and plans for an entertainment of the visitors outlined.

Snowslide Near Minam.

A snowslide near Minam this morning threatened to delay the branch service but the rotary was sent ahead of the train and it is believed the service will be slightly delayed.

Rev. Mr. Waters Here Sunday.

The Rev. George B. Van Waters, D. D., formerly rector of St. David's church, Portland and now general missionary for Central Oregon, will preach Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, March 28, 29, and 30 in St. Peter's church at 7:30 p. m. These services are preparatory to the bishop's visitation on Palm Sunday, April 1, at 7:30 p. m.

GERMANY'S COURSE IS MERELY HASTENING THE CLASH

KAISER IS BELIEVED TO WANT WAR WITH U. S.

Cabinet Met This Afternoon to Consider the Crisis—No Offer of Mediation Received from Neutral—Conference Between Kaiser, Hollweg and Hindenburg Arouses Interest in Washington.

BY ROBERT J. BENDER.
Washington, Mar. 23.—(United Press)—Continued speeding up preparations for actual hostilities is America's answer to Germany's latest affront, the torpedoing without warning of the American tanker *Healdton*. President Wilson and Secretary Lansing are convinced that Germany's course is merely hastening the clash.

They believe the Kaiser is determined to force America to declare war.

Auto Speed Races To Be Discontinued

Indianapolis, March 23.—(United Press)—The five hundred mile Decoration Day racing classic held here annually for the past eight years will be discontinued this year because of war threatening the country. The Speedway race car manufacturing plant is to be given to the government for the manufacture of airplane motors.

Portland, Ore., March 23.—Mrs. T. J. Scroggin, of La Grande, a guest at the Imperial hotel, and Miss Katherine Steichen, of 614 West Twenty-fourth street, Vancouver, Wash., narrowly escaped injury yesterday, when a three-gallon pail of water fell to the pavement from the eighth floor of Lipman, Wolfe & Company's store, on the Fifth-street side.

Mrs. Scroggin Nar- rowly Escapes Injury

Pail Dropped Eight Stories Lands on Sidewalk Near Visitor to Portland

The pail, with a brush and window-scraper, dropped at the feet of the two women from the lofty perch where a crew of window cleaners were at work. The cleaners were in the employ of the American Window Cleaning Company.

Dreadnaught Sunk In Mediterranean

Paris, March 23.—(United Press)—A French dreadnaught was sunk in the Mediterranean, it is announced.

Edgar W. Smith Sells Wheat For \$1.69 1/2

Pendleton, March 23.—(Special).—Edgar W. Smith, who was here the first of the week from Portland, sold between 25,000 and 30,000 bushels of his wheat at the peak of the market, \$1.69 1/2. He still has about 65,000 bushels which will be shipped as fast as cars can be secured, to the Eastern markets, where it will be sold. Mr. Smith had two years' crop to dispose of.