

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. TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 1917.

NUMBER 249.

TERRIFIC EXPLOSIONS WRECK MUNITIONS PLANT, MANY KILLED

It Is Estimated Fifty Persons, Many of Them Girls and Women, Are Killed At the Baldwin Locomotive Works.

SECRET SERVICE MEN ARE AT WORK

Many Are Wounded—News-paper Men and Relatives of Wounded Are Arrested—Cadets Are On Guard—Department of Justice Starts An Investigation of Cause of the Explosions.

Philadelphia, April 10.—(United Press)—Three terrific explosions wrecked the Baldwin Locomotive munitions factory at Eddy Stone, killing many and wounding between one hundred and two hundred.

Many newspapermen and relatives of the victims were arrested this afternoon at the scene of the explosions. All photographers were arrested. Relatives were not permitted to visit the morgues. It was constantly rumored many foreigners were arrested.

The Cadet Corps of the Pennsylvania Military academy is guarding the plant.

Eddy Stone police this afternoon estimated that fifty (girls and women) were killed and probably two hundred injured. Nine buildings in section F, of the Baldwin works, were shattered; machinery valued at millions was destroyed.

Explosions rocked Philadelphia like an earthquake.

Detachments of experts and agents from the local branch of the department of justice are investigating the origin of the explosions. Government agents are proceeding on the theory that the explosions were not accidental.

Minneapolis, April 10. (United Press)—Two large grain elevators were destroyed and the Mississippi bridge threatened by fire. The damage is three million dollars. Fires in two other elevators were extinguished. Authorities are puzzled.

HERBERT NUNN HIGHWAY ENGINEER

Salem, April 10.—(United Press)—Herbert Nunn, Multnomah County highway engineer was appointed state highway engineer today. His salary is thirty-six hundred dollars annually. He was the unanimous choice of the highway commission.

Ex-President T. R. Calls on President

Washington, D. C., Apr. 10.—(United Press)—Expressing himself as "heart and soul" in favor of obligatory military training, Ex-President Roosevelt held a "war conference" with the president this afternoon.

Four Thousand Marines Are Needed

Portland, Oregon, April 10.—Marine Recruiting Office, La Grande, Oregon:—Speed up recruiting to utmost. Impress upon your newspapers and all men the urgent immediate need for thousands of men to reinforce the marines at the front. We must have four thousand men at once. Accept minors over seventeen with parents' consent.

PINKSTON.

LA GRANDE IS READY FOR THE STOCKMEN

Plans of Entertainment Are Complete for the Big Convention

An enthusiastic meeting of the executive committee on entertainment of the Cattle and Horse Raisers' convention of Oregon which meets in La Grande on April 24 and 25 was held last night at the La Grande grocery, and plans for the entertainment of the visitors were found to be taking definite shape.

Those present were Andrew Blokland, C. D. Emahiser, W. R. Ledbetter, Fred J. Holmes, Frank E. Stillwell, G. L. Larison, T. J. Scroggin, J. G. Snodgrass, Clarke Leiter.

The entertainment program includes: Luncheon for the visiting ladies, banquet for both men and women, cowboy breakfast, vaudeville entertainment, livestock exhibition and parade, automobile ride for the ladies, dance at Rex hall.

All of the members of the various committees reported that their plans were well in hand. The ladies of the Neighborhood club have kindly consented to look after the entertainment of the ladies and also the serving of the big banquet.

The finance committee will complete its campaign for funds this week.

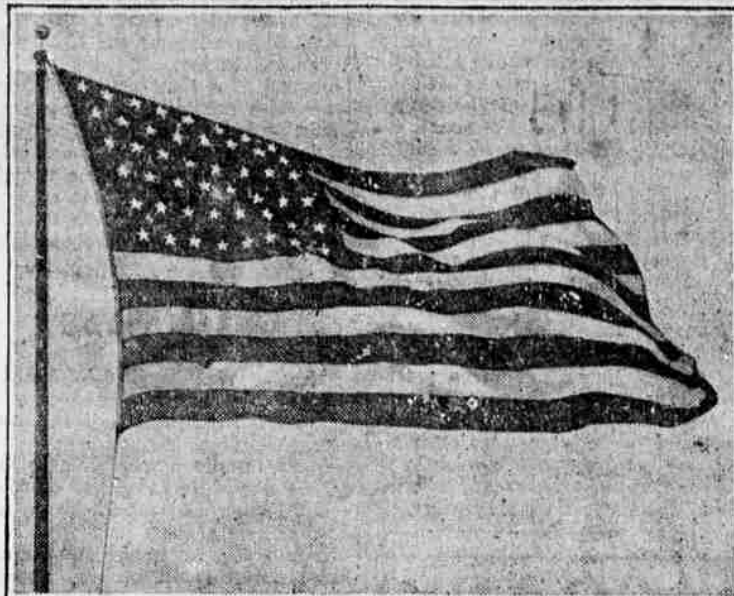
Former Head of Eagles Dies. Cincinnati, April 10.—Thomas J. Cogan, past grand worthy president of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, died here Friday night, aged 62.

Marriage License Issued. A marriage license was issued today to Ivan White and Lola Hutchinson, both of North Powder.

ARGENTINE DECLINES TO LIFT EMBARGO

Buenos Aires, April 10.—(United Press)—Argentina is unyielding to British-American pressure that the wheat embargo be lifted. Feeling reached an acute stage when the people learned of an acrimonious conference between President Irigoyen and the British minister.

England and the United States are threatening a coal embargo to Argentina unless the wheat embargo be lifted. Argentina may use its entire navy to transport coal from Chile and Columbia.



THE PLEDGE TO THE FLAG.

"I pledge allegiance to my flag, and to the Republic for which it stands—one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

FOUND THEIR SOULS IN WAR SAYS BISHOP

MR. PADDOCK DECLARES AMERICA MAY FIND HERS IN PRESENT CONFLICT.

EFFECT OF WAR ON OTHER NATIONS TOLD

War Is One of Principle, for Democracy Against Autocracy, He Declared—Rev. E. R. Fulkerson, Missionary, Tells of Competition of the Orient—Lieutenant Allen, on Behalf of Company M, Thanks Citizens for Hospitality.

"It may be that God himself had a little hand in bringing war upon us, in helping America to find her soul," declared Bishop Paddock, of the Episcopal diocese of Eastern Oregon at the business men's luncheon at the Sommer hotel today. There was a large audience present. Postmaster Bragg was the chairman of the day and had arranged an excellent program.

Rev. E. R. Fulkerson, for 20 years a missionary at Nagasaki, and at present one of the secretaries of the Board of Foreign missionaries of the Methodist church, was the first speaker and made a telling speech, showing the need of America for preparedness and efficiency if it will come, meet and overcome the competition that it must meet in the future from the Orient. He told how Chinese and Japanese come to this country and get rich off a piece of land that an American

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SUSPECT PLOTS TO BLOW UP THE CAPITOL

Guards Are Increased—No One Admitted After Sun Sets

Washington, April 10.—(United Press)—Reported plots to dynamite the capitol caused an increasing guard at the capitol grounds. Fifty officers were on duty at night. None was allowed to enter the grounds after sunset. Secret service operators in New York are working to uncover the plot.

School Board to Meet. The school board will hold a special meeting Friday night at which applications of teachers will be considered.

NOW IS THE TIME TO PLANT YOUR GARDEN

"Home Garden" Campaign Is To Be Conducted In La Grande

At a meeting at the city hall today it was decided to inaugurate and encourage a spring garden campaign in La Grande.

This is undertaken as a national duty which is urged by the president and secretary of agriculture as a part of the national preparedness campaign to stimulate the production of food stuffs in the country during the war.

Those present were Linden McCullough, J. G. Snodgrass, A. C. Hampton, County Judge Phy, L. M. Hoyt, City Manager Curry, J. G. King and Clarke Leiter.

It was decided to give away seeds to the school children who will pledge themselves to plant them and care for their home gardens.

A class of high school boys will act as leaders and help in the instruction of the younger children.

All those who own vacant lots will be asked to donate them for garden purposes.

A campaign of education will be carried on in the Observer.

The aid of the Boy Scouts, Girls' Honor Guard and other organizations will be enlisted in this patriotic movement.

The slogan is: "Help your country by planting a garden this year."

The O.-W. R. & N. will co-operate with the movement, it is expected, by granting use of their right of way for

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LINER HITS MINE BUT IS NOT SUNK

Washington, April 10.—(United Press)—The American liner, New York, hit a mine last night outside of Liverpool. All passengers are safe. The liner returned to port, according to a state department cablegram. The damage was confined to one bulkhead compartment. The other fourteen compartments floated the craft.

Germans showed extraordinarily daring by sowing mines at the entrances to Liverpool Harbor.

The Weather. Portland, April 10.—(United Press)—The weather forecast: "Rain, warmer."

BRITISH AND ALLIES ARE MAKING STRONG OFFENSIVE MOVEMENT

AMERICA

I love thine inland seas,
Thy groves of giant trees,
Thy rolling plains;
Thy rivers' mighty sweep,
Thy mystic canyons deep,
Thy mountains wild and steep,
All thy domains;
Thy silver Eastern strands,
Thy Golden Gate that stands
Wide to the west;
Thy flowery Southland fair,
Thy sweet and crystal air—
O land beyond compare,
Thee I love best!
—By Henry Van Dyke.

Germans Are Desperately Reenforcing Their Lines in Their Effort to Repel the Great Allied "Push" Which Is Steadily Assaulting Them.

GENERAL HAIG TAKES 9000 PRISONERS

United Press Report Is That Today's Total May Be 15,000—Germans Penetrate British Lines Southeast of Ypres But Are Thrown Back—Spring Offensive Is Fought in Gale of Snow and Sleet.

BY PERRY ARNOLD
New York, April 10.—(United Press)—The British grand offensive is undiminished. Germans are re-enforcing their line, desperately endeavoring to repel the great allied "push".

General Haig reports taking nine thousand prisoners. United Press battlefront dispatches predict fifteen thousand will be today's total.

The new thrust is made around Labasse, twelve miles north of the former battlefields.

The principal advance today is along Vimy Ridge and Scarpe River. Berlin and London statements agreed that a bitter combat was on southeast of Ypres. Germans succeeded in penetrating the British line, but later were thrown back.

Berlin admitted "considerable losses" around Arras, the center of the British thrust.

The "spring offensive" comes during the coldest weather for fifty years. A gale is blowing. In spite of snow and sleet the men's spirits are unchilled.

Washington, April 10.—(United Press)—War work ground on steadily in all government departments today.

RAILROADS TO GET HIGHER RATES

Washington April 10.—(United Press)—An immediate increase in freight rates is being prepared as the result of a special conference between the Interstate Commerce Commission and representatives of the railroads. The roads declared an additional revenue is needed on account of the war.

CITY OF RHEIMS TO BE EVACUATED

Paris, April 10.—(United Press)—The French authorities ordered the evacuation of Rheims by the civil population.

AMERICAN GIVEN HIS PASSPORTS

Washington, April 10.—(United Press)—The American Charge of Affairs Crew, in Austria, has been given his passports, he cabled the state department.

BRAZIL MAY DECLARE WAR ON GERMANY

City of Rio De Janeiro Is Seething With Demand For Hostilities

Rio de Janeiro, April 10.—(United Press)—War seemed more likely than a mere diplomatic rupture between Brazil and Germany.

The city seethed with the demand for instant hostilities. Foreign Minister Muller is reported to have resigned. It is understood passports for the German minister and German consul have already been signed, and are ready for instant delivery.

ENGLAND EXPECTS HEAVY LOSSES

London, April 10.—(United Press)—England is prepared for heavy casualty lists but steels to the sacrifice by the knowledge that Gen. Haig's drive is a success. The British are operating over a fifty-mile front and the drive is fifteen miles across.

It is rumored the Teutons plan a second retirement to escape a flank movement.

Plot To Tie Up Mines

Pittsburgh, Pa., April 10.—(United Press)—Justice department agents this afternoon seized papers in the office of Walter Zacharias, a German consulting engineer, giving intimate details concerning German plans to tie-up western Pennsylvania coal mines.

La Grande Boys Join The Navy

Johnny O'Connell, Joe Corbett, Albert Blinker, Delbert Snider and Hershal Horstman, all of this city left last evening for Portland where they will take the final examinations for entrance in the U. S. Navy. Miss Irene O'Connell, who has been spending her Easter vacation with her parents of this city accompanied them as far as Portland, where she will resume her studies in the St. Marie Academy. O'Connell, Corbett, and Snider were Juniors in high school, Blinker and

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