

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. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 1917.

NUMBER 256.

GERMANY STANDS TO LOSE ITS HOLD IN FRENCH TERRITORY

Titanic Offensive Movement Began Last Friday With the Greatest Artillery Bombardment in History.

MILLIONS OF SHELLS HURLED AT ENEMY

German Prisoners Say Losses Were Heavy—General Haig's Great Thrust Forward Is Officially Confirmed—British Capture Two Towns—Eleven Thousand Men and 227 Machine Guns Captured Since April 9th.

BY HENRY WOOD
With the French Armies in France, April 18.—(United Press)—Germany's hold on France is menaced by the world's most titanic offensive.

France began the drive last Friday starting with the greatest artillery engagement in history.

Millions of shells were hurled over the line daily. German prisoners say in companies of two hundred and fifty men only eighty on an average survived.

The sudden Allied drive shattered the German's hopes to avoid the spring offensive by a retreat.

British Advance.

London, April 18.—(United Press)

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MAY WHEAT SELLS AT \$2.24

Portland, Ore., April 18.—(United Press)—May blue-stem wheat sold in country points at two dollars and twenty-four cents a bushel, a new record.

Chicago, April 18.—(United Press)—May open \$2.21; high \$2.34; low \$2.20; close \$2.32 1-2.

July open \$1.90; high \$1.98 1-4; low \$1.80 5-8, close \$1.97 7-8.

Portland Club \$2.13; Blue-stem \$2.18.

MOTOR CYCLE CLUB MEETS TO GET READY TO "SPEED-EM-UP"

The first meeting of the La Grande Motorcycle club was held last evening to get ready to "Speed 'em Up," in the office of City Engineer R. R. Neal, with a good representation present. The meeting was called to order by the retiring president W. A. Rhodes. The following officers were elected for the coming year. President Chase Bohnenkamp; vice president, Ernest E. Vehrs; secretary, Roy B. Curry; treasurer, Harley Richardson; R. R. Neal, race manager.

This year the club will add a new feature to their regular event that is auto races. Mr. J. D. McKennon in last night's meeting opened the subject for the discussion of the club. It was received favorably by the club, and liberal prizes are to be hung up as prizes for these races. The exact amount will be fixed up by the finance

Argentine Seizes German Ships

Buenos Aires, April 18.—(United Press)—Argentina formally took all German armed ships into custody today. She officially explained the action was taken in event of the German crews damaging the vessels.

CAMPAIGN ON FOR MEMBERS OF RED CROSS

La Grande Chapter With Jurisdiction Over Union County to Organize Auxiliaries

La Grande Chapter American Red Cross, which has been given jurisdiction over Union county, with authority to establish auxiliaries in the various towns and communities of the county is now in full swing.

At last night's meeting, at which ten new members signed the charter roll, it was decided to make a vigorous campaign to get five hundred members in Union county.

The complete list of officers constituted is as follows:

Dr. M. K. Hall, president; Mrs. E. P. Mossman, vice president; Vincent Palmer, second vice president; Mrs. Para L. Thornton, third vice president; Mrs. Thomas Goodhue, secretary; T. J. Scroggin, treasurer; J. G. King, chairman of the military relief committee; Dr. W. D. McMillan, chairman of the civilian relief committee; F. L. Meyers, chairman of finance committee; Mrs. George Cochran, chairman of membership committee; Clarke Leiter, chairman of publicity committee.

Mrs. George T. Cochran, chairman of the membership committee, is to appoint members of her committee to assist her in the campaign.

Other chairmen will also appoint their assistants.

At last night's meeting Dr. Hall outlined carefully the work of the Red Cross, showing that it was an organization to relieve suffering or distress of humanity in peace as well as in war, and that one of its important works was in conducting a campaign to prevent accidents, to organize for first aid in cases of epidemics and disasters, to care for dependent families of soldiers and sailors in time of war, as well as taking care of the sick and wounded of the army and navy. The work is so broad in scope that any patriotic American citizen can join, even though a pacifist; for the Red Cross has nothing to do with war, it merely repairs the ravages of war as it does in time of peace during disaster.

The point was made last night that

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GUN FIRE AT SEA IS HEARD OFF CAPE COD

Coast Guards Hear Reports of Heavy Guns—Submarine Report Is Confirmed

Washington, April 18.—(United Press)—The navy department received an official report this morning of gunfire heard off Province Town. The following statement was issued.

"Coast Guard stations along Cape Cod reported this morning to District Commander at Boston having heard firing of heavy guns in rapid succession at sea, to northward of the Station. Reports came in quick succession and were heard at nine forty-one this morning. "Each of the stations transmitted a report to officers in charge of the district."

All doubt that the destroyer Smith saw a submarine was removed today. Until the following message was received some navy men thought perhaps Smith was mistaken.

"Officers on watch saw the periscope four hundred yards away. The submarine disappeared. The wake of the torpedo then crossed the starboard bow. The quartermaster of the gun crew substantiated the officer's statement."

O. W. FOOD PREPAREDNESS TRAIN ARRIVES-CAMPAIGN IS ON

The O.-W. R. & N. Food Preparedness train with Farmer C. L. Smith, Addison Bennett of the Oregonian, and O. A. C. professors on board, arrived in La Grande last night enroute for Wallowa, Enterprise and Elgin. The following schedule will be observed on the trip up the branch: Wednesday the train will be in Wallowa from 12:30 until 3:30 p. m. leaving in the evening for Enterprise where they will demonstrate at the Opera house that evening. They will be there Thursday until 9:45 a. m., then returning to Elgin where they will be from 2:55 p. m. until 5:25 p. m. Thursday.

The party will arrive in La Grande Thursday evening and will be present with us until late Friday evening.

The program of the Food Preparedness campaign which is conducted by the Union Pacific system and under the direction of the Oregon Agricultural College Extension Service that will be presented before the citizens of La Grande will consist of exhibits, lectures, and demonstrations. Practical information on back yard and vacant lot farming, thus utilizing the vacant places and lots and encouraging intensive vegetable or poultry growing, better use of the products by canning and storage for use during

AMERICAN SOLDIER SENT TO PRISON

Washington, April 18.—(United Press)—Second Lieutenant Robert Hall, of the First Infantry, Indiana Militia, was sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment on charges including negotiating for a mission from the Mexican government.

Local Y.M.C.A. Beats Company M Boys

The local Y. M. C. A. basketball team defeated the Company M basketball team by the score of 51 to 40 in the fastest game played on the local floor this year.

It was the first game of a series that will be played with the Company M team and it was a game with real basketball thrills. It was a clean open game, the open playing style that interests the spectators from the start to the finish. The ball was passed with the best team work displayed for some time, from goal to goal hundreds of times and there was never a dull moment during the contest. The Company M boys were somewhat handicapped with the floor, but for a team that never practiced they did splendidly, although every man is a star player, but representing different schools and universities. They played a wonderful game and the local team will have to watch the laurels when the second game is played.

At the end of the first half the Company M boys were leading with the score 24 to 19, the Y made a shift at the beginning of the second half that proved to be a winner. A large crowd witnessed the game and a goodly sum was netted for the baseball team. The lineup of the game was as follows:

Company M—Alfred (4), Esteb (20), Jackson (10), Gill (6), Proctor. Y. M. C. A.—Niles (18), King (16), Brownell (15), Ash, Johnson, McDonald (2), Bohnenkamp.

the rainy days will be given special attention.

The lectures and demonstrations will take two evening sessions which will be held at the Salvation Army hall Thursday and Friday evenings.

The Home Canning demonstrations from 7:30 until 8:30 will be given by Miss Cowgill. Food Preparedness 8:30 to 9:15 by Miss Johnson, Vegetable growing 9:15 to 10:00 by Prof. R. W. Allen. Lectures will be given in the passenger coach near the depot each evening and in case that more room is needed these will be held in the city hall. Prof. R. W. Allen will lecture from 8:00 to 9:00 p. m. Prof. C. C. Lamb will deliver his lecture upon poultry raising from 9:00 until 10:00 p. m.

H. W. Hicks, of the O.-W. R. & N. Co. is in charge of the transportation, R. W. Allen, superintendent of the Hermiston Experiment station, has charge of the college vegetable and gardening work, Miss Helen Cowgill, assistant state leader of club work, has the home canning demonstrations, Miss A. Grace Johnson, instructor of domestic science, home cooking and C. C. Lamb extension poultry specialist of poultry and H. C. Vicks, of O. A. C. The last demonstration train will be in Baker on Saturday.

Warrant Issued for F. C. Oxman

San Francisco, April 18.—(United Press)—A warrant for arrest of F. C. Oxman, a prominent Eastern Oregon stockman, the star witness for the government in the Thomas Mooney case, was issued today. Mooney's attorneys allege Oxman attempted to influence other witnesses.

Pendleton Moose Arrive Today

Pendleton Moose will arrive about 4 o'clock this afternoon. They will be met by the local Moose and escorted to the Eagles' hall with a band, and later entertained at a banquet at the Foley hotel. Tonight there will be a big dance, initiation of candidates and a general jollification.

Washington died at the beginning of the last hour of the day, of the last day of the week, of the last month in the year, of the last year in the century.

PRESIDENT URGES PASSAGE OF SELECTIVE CONSCRIPTION BILL

Boy Finds Body of Murdered Woman

Seattle, April 18.—(United Press)—Murdered by a blow on her temple, the body of Mrs. Florence Wahn, aged twenty-seven, the wife of Sculptor John Wahn, was found on the parking of an unused street this morning by a small boy.

FOE'S MONEY BEING USED IN MEXICO

German Coin Said To Be Influencing the Deputies Against the United States

El Paso, April 18.—(United States)—An arrival here from Mexico City explained the opposition to Carranza's neutrality plan on the floor of the Mexican House of Deputies. According to his account, German propagandists are busy among the Deputies and using money freely. Rumors that certain deputies "sold out" to Germans are common. Some deputies openly urged the German-Mexican alliance.

Army of 500,000 Men.

Washington, April 18.—(United Press)—In anticipation of speedy congressional action on the draft bill, the war department this afternoon nearly completed plans to have the first levy of five hundred thousand men under arms by August first. The first levy will be selected by lot.

SCANDINAVIA IS WORRIED ABOUT FOOD

Christiania, April 18.—(United Press)—Scandinavia is worried over the possibility of America shutting off the shipment of food supplies from neutrals and concentrating on provisioning the Allies.

Addison Bennett, of the Oregonian, is dean of Oregon newspaper men.

LA GRANDE BOYS ARE NOW AT NAVAL TRAINING STATION

The following letter was received by Mrs. J. F. O'Connell of this city. It tells of the arrival of the La Grande boys at the U. S. Naval Training Station and is signed by Forrest Ivanhoe, Chief Yeoman, U. S. Navy, son of County School Superintendent, Mrs. A. E. Ivanhoe:

U. S. Naval Training Station, San Francisco, Cal., April 14, 1917.—(To Mrs. J. F. O'Connell, 1104 O Avenue, La Grande, Oregon.)—Dear Mrs. O'Connell: At the request of your son John, I am forwarding you today by registered mail, his gold watch, and hope same reaches you safely.

Your son, in company with Herschel Horstman, Delbert Snider and Joe Corbett, of La Grande, arrived at the Training Station today, and he is at present receiving his first outfit of uniforms and also his first impres-

Conference Is Held With Senator Chamberlain of Military Committee and Leaders of the Senate.

'WELFARE OF NATION DEMANDS IT'

President Says the Selective Conscription Bill Prepared By Army War College and Army General Staff Must Be Passed As Written—Army of 500,000 Men Selected by Lot Would Be Ready by August 1st.

Washington, April 18.—(United Press)—Determined to rush the selective conscription bill through Congress immediately, the President conferred with Senator Chamberlain, the chairman of the Military Affairs Committee and other leaders.

The President told Senator Chamberlain the bill must pass immediately without change from the form suggested by the army war college and army general staff "for the welfare of the nation."

The administration leaders believe the Senate will pass the measure. The moral effect and the argument thus created will aid its passage in the House.

SECRET PEACE IS SOUGHT BY BELLIGERENTS

Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey Said To Be Making the Move Through Emissaries

London, April 18.—(United Press)—It is persistently reported that Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey are seeking a separate peace through secret emissaries. The move is said to be centered in Switzerland. Confirmation here is unobtainable.

sions of the United States Navy. I can well understand his feelings, as I went through the same thing myself several years ago. No doubt he will be homesick at first, but a boy who is never homesick will never amount to much. Love of home, loved ones, and country, are the most exalted emotions he can have, and a boy who forgets his obligations to either is lacking in the essential qualifications of manhood. So it is but natural that he will be homesick at first. Comfort him with your letters and keep the mother's influence constantly over him.

I can well understand your sacrifice in giving your boy to his country, especially at this uncertain period of our national destiny. Nothing I can

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