

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

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O'NEILL WINS; RETAINS TITLE OF CHAMPION

DEFEATS JOHN BERG OF SPOKANE IN SECOND MATCH, TWO FALLS OUT OF THREE

LARGE CROWD CHEERS THE LOCAL WRESTLER

O'Neill loses the first fall in 19 min. 40 sec. But comes back strong with the hold and takes second fall—The last and decisive fall he wins with half Nelson.

Jack O'Neill, of La Grande, is still the 175 pound wrestling champion of the Pacific Coast.

One month ago he wrestled away the championship from John Berg, of Spokane.

Last night he clinched his title from Berg by defeating the latter at one of the fastest matches ever seen on a local stage, two falls out of three.

A large audience of local fans, visitors to the Stockmen's convention, and people who had come from neighboring towns to see the match filled the Arcade theatre.

The excitement was tense when the main bout came on, and it was plain to be seen that two worthy opponents were facing each other. Berg seemed to be a perfect specimen of manhood, with his broad shoulders and well formed body. If anything he looked as if he were in better physical condition and he seemed to have youth in his favor. O'Neill appeared to be more rugged, a trifle heavier around the girth. When they went into action it was as if two old time gladiators were in mortal combat.

After both men had tried many holds and wriggled out of many desperate situations, Berg won the first fall with a cradle lock, a rather unusual hold in professional wrestling. It took Berg 19 minutes and 40 seconds to win the first fall.

The fans were with the local man strong, and they were correspondingly depressed.

But O'Neill came back at the opening of the second bout grim and determined. He took the offensive immediately. He also could be seen maneuvering to get his famous "Tribby" hold as C. D. Emahiser, master of ceremonies dubbed it. After fast and furious work on both sides O'Neill finally got the toe hold on his opponent. He held onto it like a bulldog.

The fighting was tense. Berg, struggling desperately to shake loose the terrible hold. But O'Neill was right there and he forced his advantage until the big fellow's shoulders touched to mat. Time 14 min. 20 sec.

When the wrestlers came back after a rest for the third and last fall, Berg was seen to limp a little. Both men tried for the offensive. O'Neill took it, and forced the pace. Berg struggled hard and was noticed to be wary about the toe hold. He tried to get it himself. After the hardest kind of wrestling in which both men worked out of dangerous positions, O'Neill won in 18 and 50 seconds with a half Nelson.

Mr. C. D. Emahiser was announcer; Jack Pearce, time-keeper; Harold Christensen the champion of Denmark was referee, Pat Foley, who had been chosen for referee having been called to a fire. Christensen will wrestle in Boise on the fourth of May. He challenged the winner of last night's match. Fred Gunderson, of Perry, also challenged the winner.

The preliminaries, including Fatty Arbuckle, added interest. Fritz Lottes and Will Pearce wrestled a fast bout at catch as catch can weights, Lottes finally winning a fall with a scissors hold and arm lock in seven minutes and 40 seconds.

Harry Plant of the army boxed an exhibition go with Al Bridges for two fast rounds; the referee, Pat Foley, declared honors even.

Spencer and Roberts put on a lively wrestling match.

Both are high school boys and clever; Spencer won a fall.

Gutterham and Burnett, two local boys in the bantam class wrestled a lively bout to a draw.

When the main bout was concluded and O'Neill won the local fans went wild. They all realize that O'Neill is a good, clean sportsman, they enjoy sport that is "on the square" and they consider it quite a feather in La Grande's cap to have a champion wrestler here. Berg also received praise for his scientific work.

MASS MEETING OF RED CROSS IS TONIGHT

W. W. HUSH, FIELD AGENT, WILL ADDRESS CITIZENS OF LA GRANDE ON THIS GREAT PATRIOTIC WORK.

Tonight at the City Hall a mass meeting will be held at which the people of La Grande will be instructed in the work of the Red Cross.

W. W. Hush, field agent of the American National Red Cross, will be the speaker of the evening. All the members and those interested in this great patriotic work are urged to be present.

Under President M. K. Hall, La Grande chapter of the Red Cross is being rapidly perfected.

J. G. King, chairman of the military affairs committee, has appointed Mr. A. C. Hampton as chairman of the education committee, and he in turn has appointed the following sub-chairmen: First aid, Dr. J. P. Graham; elementary hygiene, Miss E. Wood, R. N.; hospital supplies, Mrs. E. T. Andrews.

The chairman and executive committee have appointed the following directors:

George Palmer, F. J. Holmes, Wm. Miller, George T. Cochran, Dr. Iera J. Underwood, J. J. Broughton, Geo. Gilbert, Mrs. E. O. Silverthorn, Mrs. E. Polack, Mrs. R. W. Logan, Mrs. O. H. Bidwell, L. McCullough, H. S. Brown, Mrs. Fanny B. Slater, Fred B. Currey, J. D. McKennon, W. H. Bohnenkamp, Mrs. A. E. Ivanhoe, Rev. Father P. J. Driscoll, Rev. G. L. Clark, E. E. Bragg, J. G. Snodgrass, Mrs. Anna Honan, Dr. H. M. F. Uvy, Mrs. Violet Morgan.

At tonight's meeting those who wish to join may do so; and those who have not paid their dues may also do so.

WALLOWA BOYS PATRIOTIC, GO TO JOIN ARMY

NEARLY SIXTY HAVE ANSWERED THEIR COUNTRY'S CALL IN TWO WEEKS—31 LEFT LAST NIGHT.

Wallowa is the home of patriotic young men who are not only willing to serve their country but anxious to do so. Nearly sixty have answered the call within two or three weeks.

Last evening thirty-one arrived from Wallowa and Joseph and two from Summerville. One of the boys stated that patriotism ran to the highest extent in the branch towns and that in Wallowa for the last week there had been one patriotic demonstration after another. The boys from there were Ross Hood, Eugene Alfred, Ray Hendricks, James Plass, Clarence French, Herber Greer, Vernon Hammock, Charles Richards, Ralf Couch, Bruce Brace, Donald McDaniel, Virgil Coverstone, Melvin Bus, Lawrence Southwick, Harold Soden, Charles Thompson, Kenneth Hall, Sontie Henderson, John McKenzie.

The boys from Joseph are: Floyd Allen, Samuel Cole, Matthew Mohean, Bryan Gassett, Glenn Sprague, Clarence Carpenter, Vernon Martin, Morris Eben, Kelso M. Draper, Eugene O. Bloom.

The two recruits from Summerville are James M. Combes and William E. Needham.

The young men were heartily welcomed by a number of the citizens of La Grande.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WILL HOLD INITIATION.

The Knights of Columbus will initiate a large class Sunday at K. P. hall. The candidates will meet Sunday morning at 9 o'clock. The membership will assemble at 9 a. m. They will go from K. P. hall to church for high mass where Bishop C. J. O'Reilly will officiate. The first degree will be put on at 11:30 after which the adjournment will be taken for lunch. The first degree will be put on by the Baker council, the second by La Grande and the third under the supervision of J. H. Pearce, district deputy. After the degree work a banquet will be served at the Hotel Foley.

SUBMARINE GUNFIRE SINKS AN AMERICAN SCHOONER

Washington, April 26.—(United Press)—A submarine gun fire sunk the American schooner Percy Birdsall, the state department announced. A patrol boat rescued the crew.

Nine or ten shots were fired, seven striking the vessel. Most of the hits were below the water line. The firing was without warning and continued while the crew launched their boats.

FOOD DICTATORSHIP FOR WORLD SUPPLY IS CONSIDERED

Washington, April 26.—(United Press)—Developments at today's session of the allied commissioners indicated that someone, an American possibly Herbert Hoover or Secretary of Labor Wilson within the next few months would become food dictator of the world.

The war council's proceedings are crystallizing into a monumental campaign to feed the allies. Finance and shipping problems are considered comparatively unimportant. It is considered certain the allies would entrust the United States with absolute control of certain phases of the war.

Food is the one problem left entirely with the United States.

President Wilson is expected to be given power to appoint one man or a small group with complete control of production and distribution of all food in the United States, England, France, Italy, Russia, Cuba, other allied countries. It is deemed probable the step will involve the formation of an allied food commission, with a member from each country, headed by America.

GERMANS SACRIFICE MANY LIVES IN OPPOSING HAIG

London, April 25.—(United Press)—General Haig officially announced today the complete repulse of the violent German counter attack against the new British positions around Gavrelle.

Germany is suffering the most appalling losses of the war in her desperate endeavors to check the British drive by sheer weight of human masses.

North of the Scarpe river where the British fought ahead inch by inch, the German carnage was the greatest since the start of the war.

Dispatches from the front showed the Germans realize no trench could stand against the terrific fire of British artillery.

The foe is seeking to make a living

wall of humans against the advance. Into closely pressed troops the artillery did terrific work.

Thousands of mangled bodies, mostly Germans were flung over the battlefield along Scarpe. The British losses are exceedingly low, considering the ferocity of the fighting.

The prisoners' statement show the morale of the Germans is being undermined.

General Nivelle's statement revealed the greatest German efforts to drive back the French wedge which crumbled the base of the Hindenburg line. Violent counter attacks were repulsed. The Great German push south of Laon, delivered in two powerful smashes was repulsed.

HOUSE WILL VOTE ON ARMY CONSCRIPTION BILL TOMORROW

Washington, April 26.—(United Press)—The House will vote on the army bill tomorrow.

Conscription seems certain to pass. Under the agreement the House leaders reached, the debate ends tonight. Tomorrow Chairman Dent, of the House Military committee, who is opposing conscription, and Kahn, favoring draft, will make the final debate.

When the senate heard of the House's action, it also agreed to limit the debate and vote Saturday. To aid farmers meeting the food situation the government decided to throw the resources totaling one hundred million into the breach. The treasury department announced postal savings deposits would be made immediately available for loans to farmers.

ROOT HEADS THE AMERICAN COMMISSION HOME TO RUSSIA

Washington, April 26.—(United Press)—Elihu Root, ex-secretary state, accepted the chairmanship of the American commission to Russia. Root conferred for an hour with the

President today. He refused to discuss the mission. Names of other commissioners are not announced. The party is expected to leave immediately.

Wheat Jumps to \$2.60 a Bushel.

Portland, April 26.—(United Press)—Actual cash sales of wheat on the basis of Portland delivery were made this afternoon at \$2.60, far above any previous coast record. May Bluestem was bid at Chicago at \$2.60.

STEEL MAGNATES OFFER GOVERNMENT STEEL BELOW MARKET.

New York, April 26.—(United Press)—Steel manufacturers offer to fill government orders at prices from one-third to one-half below the present market quotations.

Heads of the United States, Republic, and Midvale Steel corporations agreed on these figures this afternoon.

Chicago Wheat.

Chicago, April 26.—(United Press)—The Chicago wheat market: May wheat opened at \$2.54; high \$2.60; low \$2.52 1-2; close \$2.54 3-4.

The rural population of the United States as a whole is a little over half.

FIRE BREAKS OUT IN SOUTH M.E. CHURCH

ALARM IS TURNED IN AT 8:55 P. M.—ROOF AND UPPER PART OF BUILDING IS DAMAGED—CAUSE A MYSTERY.

Fire broke out in the South Methodist Episcopal church on Fir street and U avenue shortly before 9 p. m. last evening. The alarm was turned in somewhere near 8:55 p. m. When the firemen arrived upon the scene the fire had gained a good headway. After putting up a stubborn fight for twenty minutes the blaze was controlled. The cause of the fire is unknown so far.

Rev. S. A. Edwards after attending the Stockmen's banquet went to the church where he held the regular Wednesday evening prayer meeting. He says that they kindled a small fire in one of the small adjoining rooms where the meeting was held but that it was out before the meeting was over. The meeting adjourned some time near 8:30 p. m. When the firemen broke into the church a red hot fire was found burning in the stove in the main auditorium.

The fire greatly damaged the roof and upper part of the building but was controlled before it had gained headway enough to do any serious damage to the lower floor of the church.

The piano which has been recently purchased was saved. The building was insured, but an estimate of the damage has not as yet been made. Plans for the future have not been decided and it is not known if the church will reconstruct the old one or build a new one.

A. C. Hampton Offered Eugene Principalship

News was received in La Grande today that A. C. Hampton, principal of the La Grande high school, had been appointed principal of the Eugene high school, at an increased salary.

Mr. Hampton has been in La Grande less than a year, and has made many friends here. The high school in Eugene is the largest and most important in the state. It is understood that he will accept the position. Mr. Hampton has co-operated in all public movements and his departure will be a loss to the civic and social life of the community.

THE WEATHER

Portland, April 26.—(United Press)—The weather forecast: fair, cooler.

Blacklist Suspended.
London, April 26.—(United Press)—The government announced the suspension of the American blacklist.

Many Prisoners Taken.

By Henry Wood with the French Afield, April 26.—(United Press)—Thirteen hundred German prisoners and 180 machine guns were captured in one sweep by the French soldiers. A total of eleven cannons and thirty two hundred prisoners were taken fighting around Villeaux Bois.

FIRE PATROL ASSOCIATION MEETS.

Union and Wallowa Counties Fire Patrol association will hold their annual meeting in the Y. M. C. A. this evening for the purpose of electing officers and directors for the ensuing year, and transaction of other business that may come up before the meeting.

Those here to attend the meeting are F. A. Elliot, state forester of Salem, Harvey Harris, supervisor of Wallowa National forests, Wallowa; Robert Evans, supervisor Whitman National forest, Baker; J. M. Schmitt, Wenaha National Forest, Walla Walla; Ephraim Barnes, supervisor Minam National forest, N. G. Jacobson, of the district forester's office in Portland and C. S. Chapman, secretary Oregon Forest Fire association of Portland.

To Advertise War Bonds.

Washington, April 26.—(United Press)—National advertising of the bond issue begins May first, the treasury department announced.

FINE BANQUET IS TENDERED THE STOCKMEN

LADIES OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD SERVE REPAST FOR WHICH THEY ARE FAMOUS

PROMINENT VISITORS PAY THEM COMPLIMENTS

Governor Withycombe Says Oregon Has Made Wonderful Patriotic Record—Speaker Stanfield Says Stockmen Will Do Their Bit—President Pollman Thanks Citizens of La Grande and Union County Stockmen for the Success of Convention.

The Cattle and Horse Raisers' convention is over.

With a banquet served by the ladies of the Neighborhood club at Zuber hall the program came to an end.

The banquet itself was a unique event, and the ears of the ladies of the Neighborhood club burned with compliments, for nearly every speaker, Governor Withycombe, Speaker Stanfield included, paid them the highest compliments for the splendid repast served.

Chairman Scroggin of the banquet committee certainly was fortunate for having such an able army of lieutenants. The menu was delicious, the decorations of the halls in American flags were exceedingly well arranged and appropriate, novelties in favors were introduced in the table decorations, red carnations adorned the tables, and best of all the banquet was served by the ladies themselves. It was noticeable that they had a perfect organization, the courses were served like clock work, and there was an entire absence of the usual clutter of dishes and the breaking of plates.

And the stockmen—especially those who had left their wives at home—were gallant and cast admiring eyes at those who were serving them with the most delicious ham and turkey, biscuits that would melt in your mouth, coffee that spelled more, cake fit for the gods, scalloped potatoes of unusual creaminess, and all of the little odds and ends that go to make up a banquet. La Grande has the reputation for hospitality; that banquet will make it famous.

A distinguished gathering it was too.

Senator Walter M. Pierce presided as toastmaster and introduced the speaker with appropriate sallies. Senator Pierce was at his best; wit and good fellowship fell from his lips and he succeeded in having the utmost good feeling prevail.

Governor Withycombe was the first speaker and in introducing him Senator Pierce said that in these war times we should support the hands of our governor just as we do our president. The Governor said that he was proud of Oregon in these times as it had made a wonderful record for patriotism. He complimented the ladies on the banquet, and said that the livestock show in yesterday's parade could not be equaled anywhere in the country.

Speaker Stanfield referred to the need of patriotism at the present time and common sense as well. He said the stockmen would do their bit.

Clarke Leiter spoke of the wonderful patriotic display in La Grande last Sunday and on behalf of the people of La Grande thanked the stockmen of the neighboring towns for their help in making the convention a success.

Judge J. W. Knowles made a witty speech telling of his experiences as a breeder of Jersey steers. He also read an interesting poem on the cattle trail.

Two popular livestock men of Kansas City were called upon, Mr. Hedrick and Mr. McMullen, both of whom congratulated the stockmen upon the success of their convention.

Mrs. Daughtrey invited La Grande and the stockmen to the big Portland Livestock show in November.

Mr. McAllister told of the work of the Union stockyards.

Bruce Dennis made a clever speech, complimenting the ladies on the banquet, and expressing his pleasure at being back home.

Horace D. Addis recited the cowboy's prayer.

President William Pollman said that the growth of the Stockmen's association and the successes of the present convention made last night the proudest moment of his life. He predicted that the association would continue to

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