

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, MAY 2, 1917.

NUMBER 268.

EASTERN RAILROADS EMPLOY WOMEN IN PLACE OF MEN

POSITIONS ONLY OF THOSE DRAFTED FOR SERVICE OF ARMY WILL BE FILLED.

BIG EASTERN LINES MAKE ARRANGEMENT

Women Will Be Used in Department Not Actually Engaged in Physical Operation of Trains—Many Will Be Used as Clerks, Ticket Agents and in Clerical Positions.

New York, May 2.—(United Press)—Many big eastern railroads are making arrangements to employ women in place of drafted men. Among roads, taking these steps are the New Haven, Lehigh Valley, Erie, New York Central and Pennsylvania.

Railroads declare no men will be displaced by women unless the men are actually drafted.

Women will be used in departments not actually engaged in physical operation of trains.

The Lehigh Valley is using women in cleaning cars and a few train dispatchers.

The Long Island is prepared to employ many women in clerical departments.

Other roads plan to employ women as clerks, ticket agents and in similar positions.

Cove News Notes

Child Is Bitten by a Dog—Cherry Crop Is Being Contracted For—Parent-Teacher Association Meets Friday—Operetta Is Given—Cove Has Clean-up Week—Patriotic Service League Organized.

Cove, May 1.—(Special)—Miss Izora Gregory who has been the guest of Miss Vera Pease for the past week returned to her home in Wallowa Sunday.

Eldora Thomas, the small daughter of Geo. Thomas, was severely bitten on the leg by a dog while on the street Friday. The dog was an ill-tempered animal but showed no signs of hydrophobia, however, he was killed. The child is able to be around and the wounds are healing nicely.

S. D. Smith of Boise, representing Denny & Co., fruit distributors of Chicago, was in Cove Friday making contracts for handling the cherry crop.

The regular meeting of the Parent-Teacher association will be held at the school building Friday evening May 4. Papers will be read by Mrs. Powell and Karl Stackland. The election of officers for the ensuing year will be held at this meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Conley, Miss Dillie Grey, Mrs. Cora Richards, Mrs. Nip Conley, Mrs. Jabe Conley, Miss Effie Conley, Mrs. Lloyd Carter, Mr. De Long, Geo. McDannel, Mr. Gasset, Sr., were La Grande visitors Saturday. M. L. Carter and family visited at the home of Mr. Carter's sister, Mrs. M. Kate Gekeler Sunday.

On account of the spring work the schedule for the high school and the eighth grade has been changed so that school begins at 8:20 a. m. and dismisses at 1 o'clock p. m. with an intermission of 15 minutes.

The eighth grade gave a very interesting program before the high school last week.

The operetta "Perseverance" was given before a large audience at the Cove opera house Friday evening. The Glee club entered heartily into the spirit of the play and it went off with vim and dash.

The thunder and lightning which accompanied the entrance of the imps made it quite realistic. The Glee club is planning to give the operetta at Union on Friday evening of this week.

The Woman's Improvement club met at the library building Thursday afternoon of last week. The next meeting will be the fourth Thursday in May at which time the election of officers will take place for the ensuing year.

Ethel Booth is able to be on duty at the restaurant again.

The girls of the Honor Guard and the Boy Scouts are preparing to give an entertainment in the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Miller have returned home from Hot Lake much improved in health.

Mrs. Geo. Baker and Mrs. A. A. Antles entertained the Ladies' Aid and friends at a Dime social Wednesday.

(Continued on Page 8.)

Fire Breaks Out In South M-E. Church

By some unknown cause fire broke out again in the South Methodist church last evening. The fire auto rushed to the scene and quickly extinguished the blaze. One thing noteworthy in the three fire alarms turned in at this church the American flags which adorn the building have not been injured by the blaze.

MAY DAY IN RUSSIA QUIET AFTER RIOTING

DAY BEFORE WAS MARKED BY AGITATION AND ASSASSINATION OF MAJOR GENERAL.

London, May 2.—(United Press)—May Day passed peacefully in Russia, following a day of small sized rioting in Petrograd, the arrest of a number of citizens, the assassination of Major General Khashtalinski. The rioting occurred Monday, due to activities of extreme agitators. More than a million joined in Petrograd's peaceful May Day celebrations.

England's Debts Over 18 Billion

London, May 2.—(United Press)—England's present National debt is eighteen billion four hundred ninety-nine million dollars according to figures in the budget the chancellor of the exchequer, Andrew Bonar Law, introduced in the House of Commons. To handle the great indebtedness, the budget proposed three increases of the present system of raising money. Increase in tobacco tax and an increase in the excess profits tax are among the proposals.

Chicago May Wheat High Figure Is \$2.72

Chicago, May 2.—(United Press)—The wheat market: May—Open \$2.55; high \$2.72; low \$2.55. Close \$2.69 1-2. July—Open \$2.10; high \$2.22; low \$2.08 1-2; close \$2.21.

Portland, May 2.—(United Press)—The wheat market: Club \$2.66; Bluestem \$2.70.

General Obregon Resigns As Minister

Mexico City, May 2.—(United Press)—General Obregon has resigned as Minister of War, the resignation was unexpected. Obregon pleaded ill health. In asking Carranza to accept his resignation, Obregon declared his willingness to serve Mexico in any national or international emergency.

Obituary.

Olive Eldora Gruber Thomas was born August 22, 1881, at Homes, Neb., coming to Cove with her parents in 1885 where she met and married Geo. W. Thomas March 4, 1897 and has resided in Cove since. The deceased had been suffering from ill health for several years, but recently had contracted typhoid pneumonia and died April 22, 1917, at the age of 35 years, eight months and four days.

The deceased leaves to mourn her loss her husband and seven children living in Cove, a father, mother, two sisters and seven brothers living in Independence, Oregon. The funeral was held at the house Saturday April 27 under the auspices of the Eastern Star, Cherry Chapter No. 123 of which she was a charter member. Interment at Cove cemetery.

H. E. DIXON OF LA GRANDE IS STATE COUNCIL

MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA ELECT OFFICERS AT THEIR MORNING SESSION

L. J. CARL OF CORVALLIS IS CHOSEN STATE CLERK

Delegates to Head Camp in Chicago Are F. J. Darlington, of Portland, Rev. J. G. Tate, of Hood River, and A. C. Marsters, of Roseburg—Tonight a Banquet Will Conclude the Triennial Convention.

At the State Camp meeting of the Modern Woodmen of America this morning in the Y. M. C. A. the following officers and delegates were elected.

State Venerable Consul, H. E. Dixon, La Grande. State Clerk, L. J. Carl, Corvallis. State Adviser, Frank Carnes, Oregon.

State Banker, H. J. Attlee, Banks. Escort, Geo. C. Dallis, Clackamas. Watchman, Grant Frohman, Albany. Sentry, J. W. McDonald, St. Helens.

The following delegates were elected to the Head Camp in Chicago: F. J. Darlington, Portland, Rev. J. G. Tate, Hood River and A. C. Marsters, Roseburg.

The afternoon session will be given over to resolutions and other business.

Banquet Tonight.

At 6:30 p. m. tonight the delegates to the Triennial State camp of M. W. A., local members and Royal Neighbors will assemble at the M. E. church for the banquet tendered to the visiting delegation. Toastmaster of the banquet will be Fred B. Currey. The following program will be presented: Address by M. H. Kendall, of McMinnville; music will be furnished by a sextet; K. Dyal, of La Grande, address on "Sacrifice;" piano selection by Miss Wilson, La Grande; "Woodmen Pep" by Rube Foster, of Portland; address by B. David Link, Eugene; "Impressions of Woodcraft" by Rev. Charles E. Edward, of La Grande; "Royal Neighbors," Mrs. Burt Oakman, Past Deputy Supreme Oracle; solo, Chas. Harding; addresses by Dr. E. P. Mossman, of La Grande and E. D. Gilson, of Bend. Two minute oratorical gun fire talks will be given by others.

This will close the convention and all delegates will leave on evening trains. It is requested that all attending the banquet assemble in the main church before banquet is served.

The next Triennial State Camp will be held in Bend, Oregon, as decided this afternoon by a vote of 19-12. Seaside was a close second in the selection.

The reception program tendered to the M. W. A. delegates was opened last evening with the strains of "The Star-Spangled Banner" sung by the audience and M. W. A. sextet. Following this number City Manager Fred B. Currey delivered the address of welcome and gave into the delegates keeping the keys of the city during their stay with us. State Deputy Head Consul J. W. Simmons of Portland in behalf of the delegation heartily accepted the keys.

H. E. Dixon, venerable consul, gave the welcome to the delegates in behalf of the local camp to which Venerable State Consul A. C. Marsters of Roseburg replied.

The crowning event of the evening was the pretty song sang by 16 daughters of the Woodmen under direction of Mrs. Chas. Disqua and Mrs. Will Landrum, the songs sang were "My Father was a Woodman" or "What a Pity Yours Was Not." The number brought forth hearty applause and as an encore they sang "America I Love You."

The address of the evening was delivered by Rev. J. G. Tate of Hood River on "Our Order."

Stereopticon slides of the Colorado Springs sanatorium were shown. The evening was complete with the campfire round up at which refreshments were served.

A fine exhibition of bird houses is on display at the Y. M. C. A. made by the children of La Grande. All children who have bird houses to place on exhibit should do so at once. Liberal prizes are offered for the winning one and competition is keen between the children. The contest closes Saturday.

LULL IN THE BIG WESTERN FRONT BATTLE

GENERAL HAIG DECLARES WESTERN FRONT RAIDERS WERE REPULSED—ARTILLERY CONTINUES.

NO MOVING OF LARGE BODIES OF TROOPS

Artillery Duel Rages Between St. Quentin and Lens—French Are Using Artillery Fire to Pry Loose Germany Hold on Crest Moronvillers.

London, May 2.—(United Press)—Another night of inaction, insofar as movements of large bodies of troops concerns is reported.

General Haig declared the German raiders were repulsed. Both sides are engaged in artillerying between St. Quentin and Lens.

U. S. to Send Troops.

Washington, May 2.—(Special)—The United States stands ready to send an army to Europe whenever the allies deem it wise to divert the necessary shipping from transporting food to transporting men.

It became known definitely today that the Government has offered troops to the allies, but has suggested that the alarming shortage of world shipping may make it impractical to send them at once.

Fire in Perkins Hotel.

Portland, May 2.—(Special)—Hundreds of lodgers in the Perkins hotel, Fifth and Washington streets, were driven from their rooms in varying stages of dishabille, and diners in the Castilian Grill, next door, were chased from their meals at 6 o'clock last night by a fire which started in the hotel basement from undetermined causes.

RUSSIANS EVACUATE MUSH AND GO NORTH

Constantinople, May 2.—(United Press)—Evacuation of Mush by the Russians and their retirement to the North is officially announced.

UNION COUNTY OFFICERS TO LIST ALL MEN

County Sheriff Le Warnick today received a letter from Governor Withycombe outlining the preliminary step that brings conscription plans, now being considered by Congress into actual operation, in our local community and state as a whole.

The governor has designated Sheriff Lee Warnick, County Clerk Kenneth McCormick and County Physician Dr. J. P. Graham as the registration board of Union county.

The governor's letter follows: In connection with the bill which has just passed Congress authorizing

(Continued on Page Eight.)

HONOR GUARD GIRLS SELL TICKETS FOR DANCE

The Honor Guard girls are selling tickets for the military ball to be given Thursday evening May 3 by Company M of the 3rd Oregon Infantry. The committee have placed a prize for the girl selling the most tickets. The prize being a patriotic emblem bearing the date, the name of the company and regiment engraved on back. This emblem is on display in the window of Siegrist's jewelry store and is causing a great deal of rivalry and excitement among the girls.

The committee in charge of the ball state that all is in readiness for the event. The patronesses for the evening are: Mesdames Fred Curry, Pat Foley, H. E. Coolidge, Jay Van Buren, T. J. Seroggin, R. E. L. Holt, Jas. Corbett, A. L. Richardson, J. J. Carr, Frank Lilly, Herman Siegrist, Clarke Leiter, Fred Meyers, Lot Snodgrass, E. E. Kirtley and G. L. Larison.

GOVERNMENT WILL START MACHINERY OF CONSCRIPTION

Argentine May Break With Germany

Buenos Aires, May 2.—(United Press)—Germany's explanation of the torpedoing of the Argentine steamer Montenegro is unsatisfactory. It is generally believed the relations between Argentine and Germany may be severed.

CAPTAIN AND CREW OF SHIP ARE SAVED

SURVIVORS OF OIL TANKER VACUUM REPORT THAT LIEUTENANT THOMAS IS LOST

London, May 2.—(United Press)—Second boat load of survivors of the American armed steamer Vacuum was officially reported saved. The survivors include Captain Harris, four American blue jackets, the third mate and boatswain. Captain Harris advised the American consul that Lieutenant Thomas was lost.

EAGLES OPEN THEIR NEW CLUB HOUSE

The Eagles opened their new home adjoining the Elks' Temple last evening with a sociable ball. A large number were in attendance and the event was one of the hits of the season. Before the ball Captain Neer and the boys of company M staged a drill in honor of the guests, which was heartily enjoyed by all. The guests adjourned at a late hour, having spent a pleasant evening.

The entire building of the Eagles' new home has been remodeled, interior decorations and some furnishings added. The committee in charge of the dance and their house warming were: Ben Holliday, Dan Alstatt and Frank George. At 10:15 p. m. the grand march headed by Captain Neer and wife formed and was carried out to perfection.

FRENCH WAGE GREAT ARTILLERY BATTLE

With the French Afield, May 2.—(United Press)—France is waging the greatest artillery battle to blast loose the German hold on Crest Moronvillers, the Gibraltar of the Champagne plains.

Creeks And River Flood Farm Lands

Union, May 2.—(United Press)—Thousands of acres of the central part of the Grande Ronde valley are flooded. Catherine and Little creeks and the Grande Ronde river are out of their banks. Damage to crops is heavy. Hutchinson levee, seven miles from Union is broken. The highest stage of water in Catherine creek is expected the last week in May and a greater area may be flooded then.

War Cabinet To Control Food Supply

London, May 2.—(United Press)—England's war cabinet is considering a compulsory rationing scheme, Captain Bothurst of the food control department, announced in the House of Commons today.

Elmer Jacobs and wife of Union are in the city today.

PRESIDENT WILL PROCLAIM DAY ON WHICH ALL ELIGIBLE MEN WILL REGISTER.

POLICE WILL ROUND UP THE SLACKERS

Men of the Nation Available for Service Will Be Registered and Examined, the Exempt and Unfit Eliminated—Jury Wheel Will Be Used to Select First Half Million Men.

Washington, May 2.—(United Press)—The War Department is completing the machinery for the conscription of the first half million men. On a day designated by proclamation probably before September first all men between the ages the conscription bill sets, will be ordered to visit the polls and register.

Upon registration they will be given cards designating the number of the class called for examination.

It is planned to use local police to get the slackers, who fail or refuse to register.

Under the bill a heavy penalty is imposed for failure to register. Calls by class follow.

As each class reports men subject to exemption, munitions workers, men with dependents, agricultural workers and other classes determined by the President will be weeded out.

The remainder will be conscripted by physical test, the unfit rejected and men of another class summoned. The process will be repeated until all men of the nation, physically fit and not subject to exemption are determined.

It is expected the jury wheel will be used to determine the first levy.

North Powder News

Many Plan to Attend Motorcycle Races in La Grande—Cattle Look Well in Spite of Long Winter—La Clede Mine May Be Closed—Patriotic Parade Held.

North Powder, April 30.—(Special)—Several people from this place attended the big patriotic demonstration in La Grande on April 22. They report a fine time and a large crowd present. A number of the Odd Fellows were present to represent their lodge in the affair.

A number of people from this section are planning on attending the motorcycle races in La Grande which will be held the latter part of July. La Grande always pulls off things in good style and North Powder always sends a goodly delegation to all the entertainments staged by La Grande.

Albert Hutchinson and family have moved out to their ranch where they will reside in the future. Albert has had extensive improvements made on his ranch and now has a modern improved place.

M. H. Lewis has taken out his cattle to their summer pasture. They look very well considering the long cold winter and the scarcity of feed. He took out about 150 head.

It is reported that one of the owners of the La Clede mining property who lived in New York, a Mr. Smith, died recently and the mine will be closed for a short time until the estate is settled up. It is to be hoped that this will not take long as this mine at one time was a large producer and it means much to this part of the county to have it producing again.

Jerry Lenhart from Portland was in town for a few days the latter part of the week. The wind is too cold here for him so he did not stay very long. He expects to be back in June and have his car "a Hudson Six" driven through to Portland and thence on into California where he expects to make his future home.

Three new cars were brought up from La Grande on Saturday. They were sold through the local garage here to Johnnie Younce, Harley Laughlin and John Dhalstrom. These gentlemen all bought Ford cars.

A few people from this section attended the Stock Raisers' convention in La Grande last week and report a fine time. More would have attended if the roads had been good.

Miss Busick of Union came in on the noon train Saturday noon to spend some time visiting with her uncle, Mr. Cusie, who lives on Jimmy Creek. Miss Busick has closed a term of

(Continued on Page Four)