

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 273.

SOLUTION OF SUBMARINE PROBLEM IS SAID TO BE NEAR

COMPETENT NAVAL AUTHORITY SAYS "WERE GETTING DOWN TO BRASS TACKS"

CONFERENCE IS HELD WITH NAVY SECRETARY

Several Groups of Men Are Working On the Problem of Eliminating the Undersea Menace and They Are Now Beginning to Co-ordinate Their Activities.

Washington, May 8.—(United Press)—A competent navy authority officially expressed the belief that an actual solution of the submarine menace is near.

The opinion was given while Saunders and other members of the Naval Consulting Board, were conferring at the department with Secretary Daniels on the anti-submarine invention.

This authority declared, "We're getting down to brass tacks." The inventions were tested by several groups of men working on the problem. They are now beginning to co-ordinate their work in the direction of actual solution.

LOAN OF \$100,000,000 IS MADE TO FRANCE

Washington, D. C., May 8.—(United Press)—A loan of a hundred million was made France today. Secretary McAdoo turned over a treasury warrant to Ambassador Jusserand.

SATURDAY IS THE BIG DAY IN THIS COUNTY

"AGRICULTURAL DEFENSE" MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ONE OF WHICH ALL FARMERS ARE URGED TO ATTEND.

All details for the "Agricultural Defense" meetings are being worked out to be held in the county on Saturday, May 12. The name of the place, time of meeting and chairman for each meeting will be announced in a later edition.

County Agriculturist Paul Spillman says "that the survey will be made at the meeting is probably the most important phase of this work as the government and state officials cannot cope with the situation nearly as well, unless they have an early accurate idea as to crop and labor conditions of the state. It is our patriotic duty as farmers to attend one of these meetings as we will thus be able to serve our country, state and nation, and help solve the food and labor problems."

The Weather.

Portland, Mar. 8.—(United Press)—The U. S. weather forecast: "Showers, variable winds."

CHICAGO MAY WHEAT SELLS AS HIGH AS \$3.

Chicago, May 8.—(United Press)—The wheat market:

May—Open \$2.86; high \$3.00; low \$2.86; close \$2.97.
July—Open \$2.26; high \$2.33 3-4; low \$2.26; close \$2.32 3-4.
Portland—Club \$2.80; bluestem \$2.84.

Lower Yield Predicted.

Washington, May 8.—(United Press)—A yield of three hundred and sixty-six million, one hundred and sixteen thousand bushels of winter wheat for the nineteen seventeen crop was forecasted by the department of agriculture. The nineteen sixteen winter yield was four hundred, eighty-one million, seven hundred forty-four thousand.

Derailment Is Believed Accidental

Philadelphia, May 8.—(United Press)—Executive offices of the Pennsylvania Railroad announced that a thorough investigation would be made of the wreck of the French commission's special near Arcola, Ill., last night. Officials announced that their dispatches indicate every reason to believe the derailment purely accidental.

MR COOLIDGE AND MR HURON BANQUET GUESTS

FAREWELL TENDERED THEM BY OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND STAFF OF BANK AND REPRESENTATIVES OF CITY.

A farewell banquet was given H. E. Coolidge and Ralph Huron, on the eve of their departure to join the officers' reserve corps in San Francisco. The banquet was given by the La Grande National Bank and there were present the officers, directors, and staff of the bank and a few invited guests.

Fred J. Holmes presided, and after an attractive menu served by the Foley hotel, he called upon some of those present for remarks. All expressed their admiration for Mr. Coolidge and Mr. Huron in tendering their services to their country and expressed the belief that they represented the highest type of La Grande manhood and would bring credit to their home city.

Mr. Coolidge responded that he appreciated more than words could tell the expression of good will and good fellowship and friendship that had prompted the banquet. He said that his feelings were similar in 1898 when he had given his services to his country. He said that he and Mr. Huron were going to San Francisco to work in the officers' reserve corps, that they were going through a period of probation, that all who went to San Francisco would not receive commissions, but that those who did were almost certain to be sent to Europe to fight on foreign soil under the American flag. He said that Mr. Huron and himself would do their best for their country and their flag if chosen.

Mr. Huron spoke in like terms and expressed his hope that he and Mr. Coolidge would bring credit upon La Grande. He said that war was a serious business, that the officers had much to learn as to modern warfare, but that whatever ability he had was at the command of his country.

Norman W. Frees, Andrew R. Marker and J. J. Broughton told of their offering their services to the officers' reserve corps and of their hopes that they might be later selected.

Mr. Vincent Palmer, J. D. McKennon, Dr. H. S. Brownton, Fred B. Currey expressed the good will of the citizens of La Grande and the pride all felt that La Grande would be represented in the army by two of its highest type of men.

Fred L. Meyers expressed the good wishes of the bank staff toward both Mr. Huron and Mr. Coolidge and told of the pleasant and harmonious relations.

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Hospital Corps Sail's For Europe

New York, May 8.—(United Press)—The American Hospital contingent of twenty-five surgeons and sixty-five women nurses and hundred and sixty-five enlisted men sailed for Europe today. This is the first corps sailing with regular United States army surgeons in personnel. A surgeon of the regular army is in command.

Balsa wood, found in Central America, is said to be the lightest known wood. It is lighter than cork and has an average specific gravity of only .104.

A.R. MARKER WILL JOIN THE OFFICERS CORPS

PROMINENT LA GRANDE LAWYER OFFERS SERVICES TO U. S. ARMY AND IS ORDERED TO REPORT.

Andrew R. Marker this morning received orders to report to San Francisco and to join the United States Army officers' reserve corps.

Mr. Marker's case is one of the best examples of American patriotism that has come to our notice.

When the state of war was declared Mr. Marker went immediately to the Grande Ronde hospital and submitted to a surgical operation in order to put himself in physical condition to join the army. The operation was a complete success. He was in the hospital about two weeks, and got out on Tuesday. The following Saturday he presented himself to the examining officers in Portland, told them frankly of the circumstances and underwent all of the examination except certain parts of the physical examination. Undoubtedly his spirit and pluck and patriotism impressed the officers for today he received his orders to report.

Last night at the banquet to Mr. Coolidge and Mr. Huron Mr. Marker was just a little bit blue that he had gone to so much trouble and expense to prepare himself for the service and then had not been accepted.

"Never you mind," said Mr. Leiter, who sat near him, "You will receive your orders in a day or so."

Sure enough, they came this morning. Mr. Marker will therefore report to San Francisco on next Sunday.

Mr. Marker served in the Spanish-American war in the First Idaho Infantry, Company E. After the war he served three years in the O. N. G. in Co. E at Roseburg. He came to La Grande four years ago and has been practicing law in the firm of Ivanhoe and Marker.

Mr. Marker is a man of ability, of pleasing personality and has many friends who will applaud his patriotic act in offering his services to his country in time of need.

STATE HIGH WAY COMMISSIONER TO SPEAK HERE

Mr. E. J. Adams Will Address Voters of Imbler, Elgin and La Grande Thursday—On Friday He Speaks at Cove and Union.

Final arrangements were made last night by the local arrangements committee for a series of good roads speeches in Union county by E. J. Adams, State Highway commissioner, who will spend two days in Union county.

Following is the schedule as worked out:

Thursday, May 10.
10 a. m.—Speech at Imbler.
2 p. m.—Speech at Elgin.
8 p. m.—Speech at Methodist Episcopal church at La Grande.

Friday, May 11.

2 p. m.—Speech at Cove.
Evening—Speech at Union.

Mr. Adams is not only highway commissioner and in a position officially to tell the people how the \$6,000,000 bond issue will be spent if the people vote it, but he is also an authority on the cost of roads, etc.

The meetings will be open to both men and women. Since the latter vote on this bond issue on June 4 they are urged to hear Mr. Adams so that they hear both sides of the question before making up their minds how to vote.

Mr. Adams is an able public speaker and he presents the arguments of the other side fully and fairly.

On parts of the Angeles National Forest in California the packrats are so abundant that many of the young pines planted by the Forest Service have been killed or injured by the rodents. The damage seems to take place chiefly in the late summer and fall and is more extensive in dry than in wet seasons. It is thought that the rates tear off the under bark of trees to obtain moisture at times when water is scarce.

A Parent-Teacher association has been organized at the Greenwood school. Their first meeting will be next Friday.

W.J. TOWNLEY BUYS BIG RANCH FOR \$45,000.

FLOYD MCKENNON OF ALICEL SELLS 692 ACRE PLACE FORMERLY KNOWN AS SUGAR LAND TRACT

One of the largest real estate deals recently was closed last night when W. J. Townley of Union, bought 692 acres of land from Floyd McKennon of Alicel.

This is part of what is known as the sugar land tract, or Hill Coolidge and McKennon place. It is located on Catherine Creek near Hot Lake and is 550 acres of hay land and 192 acres of grain.

The purchase price was \$45,000. The tract joint Mr. Townley's farm and the combination gives him one of the largest, finest hay and grain ranches in the county. Mr. Townley is a breeder of pure bred stock, in which he has won a reputation, he is also county commissioner and a prominent merchant in Union.

The deal was negotiated by J. F. Phyl and Ray W. Logan.

FAREWELL TO LA GRANDE MEN IS IMPRESSIVE

H. E. COOLIDGE AND RALPH HURON ARE GIVEN FINE DEMONSTRATION BY ELKS AND FRIENDS.

"Good luck Ralph" and "Take care of yourself Ed" were the farewells given to H. E. Coolidge and Ralph Huron by at least one hundred and fifty Elks and friends in front of the Coolidge home last evening before their departure for San Francisco to join the Officers' Reserve Corps. Forming in front of the Elks' Temple with the band the Elks marched to the Coolidge home where they were favored with a farewell speech from each of the boys which brought forth cheers from all. Then the Elks presented each with a fine American flag and a box of cigars. Friends lined up and shook hands with the boys wishing them good luck, giving them a hearty goodbye and a cheering word.

After the band had played several selections three rousing cheers were given for each. The procession then marched to the Elks' club where every one was invited in by the Elks and the evening was spent in music and a sociable time.

Captain Warner favored those present with an excellent description of trench warfare and his experiences in the war.

"Ed" and "Ralph" as they were to all present left on the late train and with them go the best wishes of the entire city.

Foe's Ballons Are Shot Down

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS

With the British Army Afraid, May 8.—(United Press)—Seven British aeroplanes shot down seven German balloons in the resumption of a vigorous aerial offensive by the British flyers. The weather is clear and especially favorable for fighting in the clouds.

Fighting continues vigorously around Bullecourt.

The Germans are vigorously assaulting the part of the Hindenburg line which the British now hold.

Big bodies of German troops are massed for attack.

Deadlock in Western Front.

London, May 8.—(United Press)—Another deadlock has been apparently temporarily reached along the Hindenburg line. Artillerying is active.

General Haig reported successful raids.

Germany is endeavoring to cement the crumbling pieces of the Hindenburg line by reckless expenditure of troops blood.

Elks Give Social Dance Tonight.

The Elks' club will give a social dance at their temple tonight. All Elks are requested to be present.

DISPATCH TO ROME TELLS OF KAISER'S NARROW ESCAPE

One Billion To Be Used To Build Ships

Washington, May 8.—(United Press)—It is learned the administration will ask a billion dollars to build steel and wooden merchantmen. The entire power of the government, and the resources of the nation are to be concentrated on a gigantic ship building program to thwart the submarines.

BUSINESS MEN ELECT FRED J. HOLMES PRES.

G. L. LARISON IS ELECTED VICE-PRESIDENT, T. J. SCROGGIN TREASURER, FRED B. CURREY, SECRETARY

Fred J. Holmes, was elected President of the Commercial Club at today's luncheon of the business men, succeeding J. G. Snodgrass.

G. L. Larison, manager of the La Grande Grocery Co., was elected vice-president; T. J. Scroggin, cashier U. S. National Bank, treasurer; and Fred B. Currey, city manager, secretary.

Fred J. Holmes is president of the La Grande National Bank, and is a prominent figure in the Island City M. & M. Co. Mr. Holmes takes an active part in all public movements. He was recently president of the Automobile Show and was chairman of the finance committee of the Cattle & Horse Raisers' convention. Mr. Holmes will have the support and cooperation of all the citizens of La Grande in the work of the Commercial Club.

Mr. Snodgrass retires with the good wishes of the community. During the last two years he has given much attention to community matters, has sacrificed much time from his business and has been ready and willing at all times to drop every thing to take up matters for the best interests of La Grande.

As a board of directors for the coming year the following were chosen: G. D. Emahiser, G. L. Larison, H. E. Dixon, Geo. Cochran, A. T. Hill, T. J. Scroggin, J. G. Snodgrass, Fred J. Holmes and E. Polack.

David Stoddard spoke in behalf of the "Speed 'Em Up", asking for a guarantee fund from the business men of the city of \$2000, which would be remitted after the races. The expenses of this year's event which will surpass any previous one by adding an additional attractive feature will be less than last year by \$500. Prizes offered last year amounted to \$1000. This year \$1500. The total expenses this year will be \$4000; last year \$4500.

The commercial club voted their support through thick and thin for the event.

F. B. Currey, secretary of the club, then gave a brief report telling of the good work done during the year by the club.

Dr. De Busk of the University of Oregon, favored those present with a stirring talk on the value of man and

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Vice President Is To Visit La Grande

The business men's luncheon today opened with invocation by Reverend Mr. Edwards. After satisfying their appetites to the uttermost Chairman Snodgrass called upon Rev. Mr. Edwards to present an announcement, which was that arrangements had been made for a visit from Vice-President of the U. S. Marshall to La Grande in November.

Rev. Mr. Edwards stated that he had already signed up for Mr. Marshall's visit and asked for the cooperation of the business men of the city and commercial club in making his reception a success and to help in giving a banquet in his honor. The plan was heartily favored by all. The time of his visit is not definitely known; probably in November.

WHILE MOTORING TO BERLIN, ASSASSIN FIRES TWO SHOTS AT WILHELM

TWO SHOTS HIT TONNEAU, THIRD WILD

Man Is Unidentified But Is Taken in Custody—Police Refuse to Discuss the Attempted Assassination Says Dispatch to Rome Newspaper From Zurich.

Rome, May 8.—(United Press)—The Kaiser had a narrow escape from an assassin's bullet while motoring to Berlin, a Zurich dispatch to the *Corriere d'Italia* today asserted.

An unidentified man fired three shots, two hitting the tonneau of the car, the third shot going wild. The man was arrested, but the police refuse to discuss the attempted assassination.

ANOTHER GERMAN RAIDER RUMORED LOOSE

Montevideo, Uruguay, May 8.—(United Press)—Rumors of another German raider have been received. All night searchlights played around the harbor. Port officials refused an explanation.

CHANCELLOR HOLLWEG POSTPONES PEACE ADDRESS

Amsterdam, May 8.—(United Press)—Chancellor Hollweg postponed his advertised peace address "in anticipation of events soon which will facilitate the task," according to the *Berlin Lokal Anzeiger*.

Nine Engineer Regiments Are Going For Franch

ABOUT THREE HUNDRED OFFICERS AND ENGINEERS WILL BE SELECTED SOON TO HEAD THEM

Washington, May 8.—(United Press)—About three hundred officers and engineers will be selected to accompany nine engineer regiments soon going to France.

The only drafts from the regulars for this expedition—the first carrying the flag abroad—will be a colonel, adjutant, and engineer corps heading each regiment.

It is assumed the reserve officers will give the men the basic military instructions and that it will be unnecessary to call upon the regular establishment for training.

The war department anticipates the railway brotherhood will aid in the work of getting trained railway men. The force will rebuild worn-out French railroads and create new means of communication behind the battle lines.

LANSING ADOPTS A RIGID CENSORSHIP

Washington, May 8.—(United Press)—Secretary of State Lansing followed a new iron-clad censorship by announcing today he will summarily dismiss any employe of his department who gives the press any information on which criticism of government policies can be based. Employes daring to criticize any policy will be dismissed immediately.

A wood specimen found in glacial drift and estimated by the Wisconsin State geologist to be approximately half a million years old has been identified by the Forest Products Laboratory of the Forest Service as spruce.

Good Roads Meetings In Union County

To Be Addressed By State Highway Commissioner E. J. ADAMS

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

10 a. m.—Imbler.
2 p. m.—Elgin.
8 p. m.—La Grande, at Methodist Episcopal church.

FRIDAY, MAY 11

2 p. m.—Cove.
8 p. m.—Union.