

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, JUNE 20, 1917.

NUMBER 310.

TEN THOUSAND SUBSCRIBED IN BIG CAMPAIGN

O'NEILL IS STILL THE CHAMPION

DEFEATS CHRISTENSEN AND IS NOW UNDISPUTED NORTH-WEST CHAMPION.

TAKES FIRST FALL IN 19 MIN.55.SEC.

Local Wrestler Demonstrates His Wonderful Skill And Ability By Breaking All of His Opponent's Holds and, When He Took Offensive, by Putting Christensen Out With His Famous Toe Hold—Good Preliminaries Make Up Fine Evening's Entertainment.

Jack O'Neill, of La Grande, is now the undisputed heavyweight wrestling champion of the Pacific Northwest.

He defeated Harold Christensen at the Arcade Theatre last night, taking the first fall and match in 18 minutes and 55 seconds.

The match was close and exciting. When the two wrestlers took the stage both were greeted with applause and O'Neill, especially. The latter got an ovation. It was seen that Christensen was the younger and the heavier. C. D. Emahiser, the announcer, gave O'Neill's weight as 175. Christensen's was given at 190. The latter looked heavier.

J. H. Peare was time keeper and Fritz Lottes referee.

The men jockeyed for position at the opening of the match and the spectators were keyed up to a high pitch. About half were women, who took a keen interest in the contest. Christensen soon assumed the offensive, and O'Neill broke out of several dangerous positions. It was noted that O'Neill always broke Christensen's holds, and wiggled out of the dangerous hold for which Christensen is famous—the leg scissors. O'Neill's tactics were to let Christensen get a hold, then suddenly break it and take the offensive. Three times he tried to get his famous toe hold. The first time Christensen broke it easily. The second time with more difficulty, kicking O'Neill savagely in the face. The third time, Christensen was on the offensive when O'Neill suddenly broke loose and dove for Christensen's toe. He got it, and proceeded to apply the pressure, Christensen was thrown into the crowd, O'Neill hanging on to the toe like grim death. Finally Referee Lottes asked Christensen if he gave the fall, and the latter said, "yes". It was impossible from the position the men were in to get Christensen's shoulders on the mat, on account of the ring spectators.

After the intermission was over, Mr. Emahiser announced that Christensen was the winner.

(Continued on Page 8.)

AMERICAN DESTROYERS RESCUE SURVIVORS

With the American Destroyer Flo-tilla, June 20.—(United Press)—After a record breaking dash in response to wireless calls, two American destroyers arrived at an English port with eighty survivors rescued from two torpedoed merchantmen. The rescues were made further from land than any torpedoings yet reported.

Mrs. Harry Turner has returned from Spokane. She was accompanied by her mother.

I.O.O.F. To Hold Convention At Cove

Beginning next Friday morning the Odd Fellows, Rebekahs, families and friends will enjoy the hospitality of Cove, and Cove in return will be honored by the holding of the I. O. O. F. Union County convention in their city. La Grande members are making preparation for transportation and many intend to go by autos. Cove is noted as the green garden spot and happy valley of Union county and many families are planning on leading

(Continued on Page Six)

Food Control Bill Now Before Senate

Washington, June 20.—(United Press)—The Senate began the debate on the food control bill today. Senators Reed and Gore and Representative Joe Cannon employed all their oratory to block the measure. Senator Gore declared the measure will bring famine in nineteen months and contended that the bill will cost the wheat growers a quarter of a billion dollars and the corn growers half a billion dollars.

ARTILLERY STRUGGLE IS TITANIC

HEAVIEST GERMAN BOMBARDMENT IN SECTION EAST OF CHEVREUX WOOD AND NORTH OF RHEIMS

HEAVY FIRE AGAINST FRENCH LAST NIGHT

The Violence of the Attack Suggests the Possibility of Hindenburg Preparing a Counter Offensive Against the French.

Paris, June 20.—(United Press)—A titanic artillery struggle is progressing along the greater part of the France front, was officially stated. Between Ailette and Houlin Lafaux, in the sections east of the Chevreux Wood and north of Rheims the fire is the heaviest from the German batteries. A violent bombardment against the French positions was directed last night. Along the Champagne guns on both sides roared unceasingly throughout the night.

The German attack was repulsed near Monteton today.

The violence of the German artillery suggests the possibility of Hindenburg preparing a counter-offensive against the French. The German fire has been intense for the past three days. The positions under bombardment are those mainly commanding the valleys leading to Loan, which were taken by the French in the April offensive.

Red Cross Raises \$127,000 To Date

Portland, June 20.—(United Press)—With reports from sixteen counties in the state of Oregon, excluding Portland, has raised one hundred and twenty-seven thousand dollars, for the Red Cross, in the first two days of the campaign.

REVEREND BUSSARD OF LA GRANDE RECEIVES HONOR

Portland, June 20.—(United Press)—Rev. F. W. Bussard, of La Grande, was elected president of the Pacific Synod of Evangelical Lutheran churches today.

WILSON DESIGNATES RECRUITING WEEK

Washington, June 20.—(United Press)—President Wilson has designated the week beginning June 23d as recruiting week. The President asks for seventy thousand volunteers during this week.

SUBMARINES MORE ACTIVE THE PAST WEEK

London, June 20.—(United Press)—Twenty-seven British vessels carrying more than six hundred tons of freight each were submarined this week, the Admiralty announced. Five vessels under sixteen hundred tons capacity were destroyed. No fishing vessels were lost. The report shows an increase in the loss of tonnage.

MISSING TEAM REPORTS \$400 ITEM NOT INCLUDED

Mrs Honan Contributes Five Hundred To Fund-Workers Are Showing Enthusiasm-Last Thousand Is The Hardest To Get.

Nine thousand six hundred and thirty-four dollars and forty-three cents represent the sum total of Red Cross subscriptions secured in and about La Grande between yesterday morning and today noon. The second daily luncheon today saw the total subscribed yesterday noon just about doubled. Nevertheless this sum is not quite all that has virtually been subscribed as one gift of \$400 from the Royal Arch Masons was not reported in today's totals. Neither was the report from the O.-W. team the members of which are scattered over the entire division and could not come in; neither has the George Palmer Lumber company report for today been included in the total. So, while it is not definite just what sum is actually in hand if all teams were present to report, one thing is certain, the sum is over \$10,000.

The work this morning lagged not, neither did it this afternoon. The luncheon at the Sommer today noon

was full of vim and pep and the Neighborhood club again electrified the diners by announcing \$500 in small subscriptions gained from house to house canvasses. G. L. Larison's team is still in the lead for the two days with Rev. Chas. A. Edwards' team in second place.

After a bite to eat, and listening to speeches by Bruce Dennis who dropped into town from Portland, Rev. Chas. A. Edwards, Rev. G. L. Clark, Mrs. Ray W. Logan and others, the workers beat a swift retreat for the streets and hard work again. The old-time pep is still bubbling over like Beaver creek.

The standing of the teams so far as reported at noon is: O.-W., \$178; Grande Ronde Lumber Co., \$272; George Palmer Lumber Co., \$161; Neighborhood club, \$1061.65; Rev. Clark's team \$878; Rev. Edwards' team, \$1370.88; W. R. Jones' team, \$755.65; Dr. A. L. Richardson's team, \$1000; E. Polack's team \$583.53 and Mr. Larison's team \$3,237.

BUSINESSMEN DISREGARD AFFAIRS WORK FOR RED CROSS

Once again La Grande and Union county is abreast with the rest of the state, and far ahead of many sections of it. Union county has done itself proud thus far in the mighty effort to raise the sum of \$18,000 from this county. Will she finish as well as she started? Not only are the people stepping out to the front like true patriots but the army doing the collecting of subscriptions is proving itself a valorous body of men and women.

Many a store and office has been woefully short of managers and clerks since Tuesday morning. With utter disregard for their personal affairs score after score of businessmen and women yesterday and today finetooth combed La Grande and the immediate vicinity for dollars. Commendable spirit among the workers, excellent generalship and plenty of pep made the first day and a half a big smashing go of it.

True Spirit Manifest. Then there is the spirit of the givers. Only in the most isolated instances are solicitors turned down. So far as can be ascertained, the man who flatly refuses to give at all is almost negligible. True, many can't afford to give but a few cents, but such donations are received with as much appreciation as are the larger ones.

The fears entertained at the outset that La Grande wouldn't thoroughly wake up to the urgency of the crisis or to the enormity of the problem, are proven to have been ill-founded. The people are awake to the need of giving, and have caught the spirit of self-sacrifice in a splendid way.

Last Thousand Hardest.

The last thousand of a campaign like this is always the hardest to get. Team captains are emphasizing upon their men the need of fighting it through to a complete finish—to hoe out their rows. The public, recognizing that the first two days were remarkably successful, must not rest on the giving, or become over confident—lest victory yet slip away. "Give, give, give and give until the actual amount is raised" pleads the general staff and adds: "Don't let up in the fight until we know without a doubt we have enough. With victory ready to burst on the horizon like the rays of a glorious dawn, we can't and mustn't let slip a single cent—not until victory is ours beyond a question of doubt."

Sidelights on the Drive. Merchants are evolving clever ideas

to help in the Red Cross drive. The Oxner paint store is giving 10 per cent of its business this week to the cause. Next Saturday Cherry's Florist will give to the cause all the receipts turned in by volunteer flower girls who will sell carnations on the streets. The proprietor A. B. Cherry will furnish the carnations as long as the ylast. The Honor Guard girls will handle the sales.

The sacrifice and right spirit displayed in many instances is a source of gratification to the teams. One farmer who lives on a rented place out in the valley with no prospects in the world of getting a crop this year turned his pockets inside out and scraped his little shack called home to make up an even dollar. It was all he had and he didn't know where another was coming from. But he gave it gladly. His loyal wife, sorely in need of a new dress, smiled benevolently upon the transaction.

A group of ladies met at the George L. Cleaver home in Imbler this afternoon to devise some means to comb their town for subscriptions. Imbler is turning her gifts in via the La Grande office.

Hal Rees started out yesterday by giving very generously to the cause and then driving his Overland 167 miles in the quest of subscriptions during the afternoon. At one time he was stalled in the midst of a large flood lake covering the highway but a little headwork and plenty of mechanical power got the party out without anyone being drowned.

Dr. A. L. Richardson and T. J. Scroggin were other drivers of cars touring the adjacent territory yesterday afternoon. They too had a strenuous afternoon but came back well rewarded for their efforts.

Cove citizens night before last met and decided to raise \$750 in Cove and surrounding farm district. Yesterday morning the solicitors were out bright and early and kept going all day in quest of Red Cross money. The national committee had not delegated Cove with this duty but the people of the cherry district want to do their mite very thoroughly, so instituted a town-wide campaign. In that way more subscriptions, probably, will be obtained than if teams went out from La Grande or Union.

Wheat Prices Drop Thirty Cents Today

Portland, June 20.—(United Press)—Wheat on the merchants' exchange declined between thirty and thirty-two cents per bushel today. This is the greatest decline in history of the local wheat trade. The drop is probably due to the attempt of dealers to get quotations down to new crop figures. Both club and bluestem are quoted at two dollars.

DRASTIC MEASURES URGED BY COMMISSION

COAL AND COKE SITUATION WILL BE BIG PROBLEM IN TRANSPORTATION—PRICES TO BE KEPT DOWN.

RECOMMENDATIONS ARE VERY REVOLUTIONARY

Production and Distribution of Coal and Coke To Be Conducted By a Pool in the Hands of a Government Agency.

Washington, June 20.—(United Press)—A drastic war time government control is urged for coal and coke transportation by the federal trade commission as the only adequate remedy for the alarming coal price and supply situation. Recommendations made are the most revolutionary the commission ever submitted. The commission declares the coal situation threatens industries and individuals and it recommended that the production and distribution of coal and coke be conducted through a pool in the hands of government agency.

The commission recommended that all transportation agencies of the United States, both rail and water, be pooled and operated on government account as a unit.

EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA CONFRONTED WITH TASK

London, June 20.—(United Press)—Emperor Charles, of Austria, is confronted with the most difficult task since he has assumed the throne. The entire Austrian cabinet has resigned. Vienna dispatches, via Amsterdam, emphasized the difficulties the government must overcome to obtain a cabinet which all factions will support.

Baggagemen Appeal Service Commission

Salem, June 20.—(United Press)—Baggagemen on the Oregon and Washington Railroad between Portland and Green River appealed to the Oregon Public Service Commission for assistance in securing a reduction of hours. Baggagemen say that they are on continuous duty for thirty-two hours and longer when trains are late. Their average working day is ten hours and twenty-six minutes they declared. Baggagemen and train electricians are not benefitted under the Adamson eight-hour law.

Mrs. Turnbull Asks For Bread Regulation

Salem, Ore., June 20.—(United Press)—Mrs. Millie Turnbull, representing the women's division of the state defense council, asked the public service commission today to regulate the size of a loaf of bread. She declared that loaves vary greatly in weight. Mrs. Turnbull also said that the price of fish has soared beyond reasonable bounds and she urged that the commission regulate its price, the same as the price of electric light and telephones is regulated.

SUFFRAGETS RUSHED BY ANGRY MOB

AS RUSSIAN COMMISSION ENTERS WHITE HOUSE SUFFRAGISTS FLAUNT BANNER

CLAIMS WILSON AN OPPONENT OF DEMOCRACY

Justice Department Starts Investigation To Find Out If First Line of Banner Contained Any Statement Which Is Treasonable.

Washington, June 20.—(United Press)—Incensed at suffrage pickets, who flaunted denunciatory banners before the White House gates as the Russian commission entered, an angry mob of three hundred men and women, mostly government clerks, charged the suffragists and tore the banners to shreds.

The banners read: "President Wilson in sending Root as an envoy to Russia is deceiving her. They say we are a democracy Help us win the world war so democracies may survive. We women of America, tell you America is not a democracy. Twenty million women are denied the right to vote. President Wilson is the chief opponent. Their nation franchise would help us make this nation really free. Tell our government it must liberate its people before it can claim free Russia as an ally."

The justice department started an investigation to determine whether there is anything treasonable in the first line of the women's placard which accuses the President and Root of deceiving Russia. The state department is not determined whether the banner constituted a meddling in the delicate negotiations involving the government or not.

CONSCRIPTS WILL NOT BE GIVEN CHOICE

Washington, June 20.—(United Press)—The war department will assign all conscripts to different branches of the service at the department's discretion, Provost Marshal General Crowder announced. Men will not be allowed to pick service. Most conscripts will be assigned to the infantry and in no case assigned to the navy. General Crowder declared that there are two kinds of exemptions, permanent and occupational. The occupational exemptions will probably be conditional, exemption ceasing when the holder changes industry.

WATCH IT CLIMB

LA GRANDE'S AND UNION COUNTY'S RED CROSS CAMPAIGN FUND EXCEPTING UNION AND ELGIN DISTRICTS

Table showing fund amounts: \$15,000, \$10,000, \$9,634.43 (TODAY NOON), \$5,000, \$3,000, \$1,000, \$0