

IN THE MIDST OF HALLOWE'EN PLEASURES LET US NOT FORGET THE NEED OF THE RED CROSS

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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ITALIANS RETREAT; GREAT BATTLE NEAR

MUNITIONS FOR ARMY IN FRANCE LOST IN FIRE

FIVE MILLION DOLLAR BLAZE IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN INCENDIARY.

MAN RUNNING FROM PIERS IS ARRESTED

Other Arrests Are Expected—Police and Secret Service Men Working on Case—Death List May Not Exceed 15.

(United Press.)
BALTIMORE, Oct. 31.—Three Britons are identified as victims of the \$5,000,000 waterfront fire last night, destroying munitions for the American expeditionary forces in France. The death list is not expected to exceed 15, although a score are reported missing. John Witterman was arrested this morning in connection with the fire. It is alleged Witterman was running from the piers when the blaze was discovered. Other arrests are expected. Police and secret service operatives are confident the fire was incendiary.

MODERN WOODMEN TO HAVE BIG MEETING

J. G. TATE, HEAD AUDITOR AND NATIONAL LECTURER TO BE HERE.

On Friday, November 2, the Modern Woodmen and Royal Neighbors, of Union County, as well as their friends, will have a chance to hear one of the big men of the society. A district meeting is to be held in the City Hall on that date, beginning with a business meeting at 6:45 P. M., which will be attended to by Consul, Clerk, Escort and Chief Forester of the various camps throughout the county. At the business meeting plans will be laid for a big campaign for membership, to end with a big district adoption of candidates, at La Grande, some time during December. At 8:15 there will be an open meeting, to which all Modern Woodmen, Neighbors and friends are cordially invited. At this meeting, J. G. Tate, of Hood River, Oregon, head auditor, and national lecturer, will be the principal speaker. Many will remember Mr. Tate from the splendid talk that he made at the reception at the time of the State Camp here in May. At that time, however, he was only one of several speakers, and only had time enough to make but a short talk, but in that time, showed his ability as a profound thinker, a logical reasoner, and a polished orator. He will be at his best, next Friday evening, and the public is cordially invited to hear this great exponent of the doctrines of Woodcraft. The meeting will be presided over by H. E. Dixon, state consul, and J. W. Simmons, state deputy head consul will be present to help in the plans for the big initiation.

Neighborhood Club Entertains Teachers

The Neighborhood Club held its annual reception for the teachers in La Grande schools in their club rooms at the Library last night. About one hundred people enjoyed the hospitality of the club.

After a short but enjoyable program a pleasant social hour was spent during which time refreshments suggestive of Halloween were served. A special feature of the evening was the fortune telling of Mrs. Lynn Bohnenkamp and Mrs. Norman Freese.

The program consisted of a piano duet by Mrs. Birnie and Mrs. R. J. Green; a vocal trio by Mary Newlin, Jeanette Stoddard and Gladys Black accompanied by Mrs. Maurice H. Hyde; a dramatic reading by Naomi Williamson, and a violin solo by Kenneth Gekeler.

SAMMIES MAY BE FORCED IN FIELD SOONER

STRONG AMERICAN ATTACK ON WESTERN FRONT IS SUGGESTED.

UNADVISABLE TO SEND MEN TO ITALIAN FRONT

American Pressure, at Certain French Ports Might Cause Cessation of German-Italian Drive.

(United Press.)
NEW YORK, Oct. 31.—European war developments may force American armies into action sooner than scheduled. It is suggested a strong American attack on the western front might divert Austro-Germans from Italy. It is considered inadvisable to send American troops to the Italian front. American pressure at certain points on the French front would demand immediate cessation of the German-Italian drive.

VON HERTLING REFUSES TO ACCEPT CHANCELLORSHIP

(United Press.)
LONDON, Oct. 31.—An Exchange telegraph dispatch from Amsterdam declared von Hertling refused to accept the German chancellorship because of his inability to secure a Reichstag majority supporting him.

BRITISH NAVAL PLANES MAKE BOMB RAIDS

(United Press.)
LONDON, Oct. 31.—During the last 48 hours the British naval planes conducted the greatest series of raids since the beginning of the war, the United Press authoritatively learned. It is reported over 200 bombs were dropped.

1917 Vegetable Crop Best In Five Years

The squash, pumpkin and cabbage crops of the Grande Ronde Valley are the finest that have been harvested for the past five years.

This is the first year in the last six that the onion crop has not been damaged more or less by frost, onions this year, however, are absolutely the best quality seen in the valley.

The crop has practically all been sold and the cabbage, pumpkin and squash are all taken care of and under cover.

Large Quantities Of Potatoes Are Sold

Considerable quantities of potatoes of the Valley's potato crop have changed hands during the past week.

Owing to the late season and heavy frosts a large portion of the potato crop has not ripened sufficiently for storage purpose, consequently most sales are for immediate delivery and consumption.

Some few favored ranches, however, have fully matured crops of extra fine spuds, these however, are mostly being held for higher prices.

The Weather.
PORTLAND, Or., Oct. 31.—The U. S. weather forecast:—Fair.

Tomorrow (Thursday), being All Saints' Day, there will be a celebration of the Holy Eucharist, in St. Peter's Church, at 10 o'clock.



PLOT TO KILL OUR SOLDIERS IS UNCOVERED

(United Press.)
MEMPHIS, Tenn., Oct. 31.—The nationwide plot to kill American soldiers and sailors by poisoning vaccine serum with tetanus germs is believed uncovered, following five deaths traceable to vaccinations. Washington ordered a ban on the sale of vaccination points.

Extra Policemen Will Patrol City Tonight

The city administration has employed extra policemen to patrol the city tonight.

Since there is a spirit of conservation in the air, the administration urges the merry-makers not to destroy property, or to turn over wood-piles or take away articles from premises. Such lawless acts will lead to arrest.

The youthful merry-makers may have a good time but they must not do damage.

Sign The Food Pledge! Join The National Food Army

Seven hundred and sixty-seven fam-ment does not say: "Go without," it says, "Eat plenty, eat wisely, but do not waste."

The children of the city schools have taken hold of the work with a will and are industriously canvassing their home districts for the signatures of their friends. People who are not visited by the children are requested to stop at the Observer office where arrangements have been made for the taking of their names and furnishing of home cards.

The committee wishes to emphasize the fact that the campaign lasts but a week and asks that the public co-operate with them in seeing that cards get to every home.

War's Important Battle Near At Hand

(United Press.)
LONDON, Oct. 31.—Development of one of the war's important battles when the Italians make a stand against the invaders along the Tagliamento River is considered imminent. It is feared the Austrians may outflank the Italians. It is believed the river, swollen by unprecedented rains, and with Cadorna's army reformed, would be an impassable barrier.

Hurley Speeds Up Ship Building

(United Press.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 31.—Chairman Hurley, of the United States Shipping Board, announced the country's yards are producing ships at the rate of 7,500,000 tons annually, exceeding the allies' requests for 6,000,000 tons. Hurley asked all steel plants to operate on three-shift basis.

ARE YOU ENROLLED?
"Good Morning. Have you a food administration card in your window?" This isn't exactly the usual greetings as yet, but the chances are that things are tending that way.

HAIG LOSES FEWER MEN

(United Press.)
LONDON, Oct. 31.—General Haig's great October gains have been attained with less loss on men than in September. The October casualties totaled 83,558; September, 105,430; August, 60,373.

(By United Press.)
LONDON, Oct. 31.—The Germans failed to make further counter attacks against the newly gained British positions along Passchendaele Ridge last night. General Haig reported the enemy artillery active.

Bandits Holds Up Bank Messenger

(United Press.)
CHICAGO, Oct. 31.—Four bandits held up a bank messenger, securing \$7,050. They escaped in an automobile.

Food Pledges Are Signed By Millions

(United Press.)
WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—Food headquarters announced two million seven hundred and twenty-two thousand nine hundred and eighteen families have taken food economy pledges during the first two days of food saving week. Returns are most satisfactory.

Henry Ford Loses Dodge-Ford Suit

(United Press.)
DETROIT, Oct. 31.—Henry Ford lost the Dodge-Ford suit in which Dodge Brothers sought to restrain Ford from using the Ford motor plant's profits to erect a smelter plant. Dodge Brothers wanted the profits divided among the stockholders.

UNITED STATES RUSHES TO AID OF ITALY

GIGANTIC SUPPLIES OF MONEY FOOD AND MUNITIONS SHIPPED.

LOAN OF \$230,000,000 IS MADE AT ONCE

Grain and Coal Are Already En-Route —France and Great Britain Are Sending Re-Enforcements.

(By United Press.)
WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—Gigantic supplies of money, food and munitions are being rushed to Italy. The United States decided to extend Italy's credits two hundred and thirty million dollars immediately. Grain and coal are already enroute from the United States to Italy. The French and British are rushing guns and re-enforcements.

ITALIANS' RETREAT PROCEEDS SATISFACTORILY.

(United Press.)
ROME, Oct. 31.—The Italian retreat to the prepared positions is continuing satisfactorily, it is officially reported. Bravery of the defending troops permitted a redistribution of the Italian forces according to strategic plans. Further engagements at Han Denale, Delfruti, along the Ledra Canal, Pasi, Schlavonico, Pozzuolo, and Delfruti, are reported.

FRENCH AND BRITISH ARE SENDING AID.

(United Press.)
PARIS, Oct. 31.—The French and British armies are rushing to aid the Italians. Officials believe the Italians with allied assistance would succeed in stopping the Austro-German invasion.

American Sinks A Submarine, Then Gets Sunk

(United Press.)
FROM A NATLANTIC PORT, Oct. 31.—The American steamer Lewis Luckenbach sank a submarine three hours before being torpedoed herself, according to twenty-six survivors arriving here.

Nora Arbuckle Gets Government Position

Nora Arbuckle, La Grande's first woman treasurer, has received notice of her appointment as clerk in the office of the Adjutant General's office in Washington with orders to report as soon as possible. Miss Arbuckle took the government examination as typist in July. She has made no definite plans other than accepting the position. The position being a competitive one carries with it considerable honor and Miss Arbuckle is receiving the congratulations of her many friends on her good fortune.

C. H. Conkey Will Store Many Apples

C. H. Conkey of Island City will store about 10,000 boxes of fine apples from his ranch at Island City, about 1000 boxes being Delicious. The apples are all of first class quality as the orchard is well taken care of. Between four and five thousand boxes are already in storage in the Hamilton warehouse and the picking of the balance is being rushed. The late frosts have done no damage to Mr. Conkey's apples up to the present time.