

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 XVII.

LA GRANDE, OREGON, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1917

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U. S. ENGINEER'S ARE NOW UNDER FIRE IN FRANCE

AMERICAN RAILROAD MEN ARE RUNNING TRAINS IN ACTIVE SECTOR

SAMMIES HAVE CHARGE OF ENTIRE R. R. SYSTEM

Trains Are Run On Schedule, Carrying Food and Shells to the French Troops at the Front.

By J. W. PEGLER
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)
AMERICAN FIELD HEADQUARTERS, FRANCE, Oct. 12.—(By Mail.)—Somewhere in an active sector, the American Railroad Engineers are running trains right up to the front. They are the first American regiment to come under shell fire in the Great War.

An entire railroad system from the general manager's office to the head of the lonely track-walker has been handed over to the Sammies by the French War Office. Trains manned by American boys are moving on a strict schedule, carrying shells for the guns, food for the French troops and the daily movement of post going forward or coming back on leave to rest.

Temporarily the regiment is loaned to the French for the operation of that railroad. The Sammies may stay on the job there for the duration of the war or they may be shifted to some other line. They get French rations and their road is part of the French system. But they wear their own uniforms, draw American pay, and run the road by their own method, which means economy of man-power.

At some points their line is within the range of the Boche guns and shells erupt at random along the right of way. At night there is danger of Boche aeroplanes slipping through the tight French aerial patrol and bombing the Sammies at work. This has happened, but so far our troops have had no casualties.

I was with engineers last night when they marched to the troop train to move forward. The move was made without any unnecessary sound to guide Boche air-raiders. Along pitch-dark streets they swung through the town to the music of their own hob-nails beating on flat pavements. The bandsmen were there with their horns smothered in green kimonos to prevent the moon-light from glinting on the brass.

The American commander kept the time of departure secret so that half the town would not stay awake till one a. m., to see his boys off.

Breaking into single file the Sammies stepped out of the darkness into the American Red Cross buffet at the railroad station, stowed away their rifles and steel helmets and lined up for freechow.

Fifteen American women, worked like biscuit-pushers in a bakery and when they began to lose ground against the crush of hungry Sammies the colonel himself jumped behind the counter and poured coffee out of a big pail.

There wasn't much time. The troop-train slid into the station, the Sammies piled in, forty to a car and the officers clambered into their coach.

Up forward the whistle tooted cautiously a lantern flashed and the train moved out carrying the first American Sammies to the front.

And some of them aren't coming back.

Nick Sinnott Pays Visit To La Grande

Congressman N. J. Sinnott arrived in La Grande last night and spent this morning here, looking after some business and chatting with friends who called upon him. He left this morning for Baker.

The last session of congress, was of course tremendously important, and the strain of the sessions was great. The task of getting the country into the war was one which required all the energies of congress and we gave the nation our very best services," said Mr. Sinnott.

"The President did not want war, none of us wanted war. It has been forced on us. There is nothing to do now but win it."

C. W. Meighan, president of the Oregon - Washington Exhibitors' League, visited in La Grande yesterday.

W. O. W. Initiates 42 New Members

DELEGATES FROM BAKER AND PENDLETON WERE IN ATTENDANCE

E. P. Martin, Deputy Head Council, Sees Good Future in Store for Local Camps.

(United Press.)
The Woodmen of the World brought their month's campaign for new members to close last night with a rousing meeting in the Eagles' Hall, when 42 candidates were initiated into the order.

Delegates from Baker, Pendleton, Enterprise and other towns were here to help put the neophytes through. The Pendleton degree team exemplified the work of the new ritual which was shown in La Grande for the first time last night.

E. P. Martin, Deputy Head Council of Portland was present and addressed the gathering. Mr. Martin said that he was very much pleased with the spirit displayed at the meeting and that while La Grande chapter although it was one of the oldest camps in the state, had become somewhat inactive during the last few years he was sure that with the addition of a bunch of live, new members, the old spirit would be revived and the camp would become again one of the leaders of the state. He stated that the W. O. W. had over 4000 men enrolled in the U. S. service and that these men were receiving their insurance without extra war rates.

The meeting closed with an oyster supper.

TEUTONS STORM LEONE, BERLIN DISPATCH REPORTS.

(United Press.)
BERLIN, Nov. 13.—Fonazano and Monte Lonara have been captured, it is officially stated. The Austro-Germans reached and stormed Leone and the works around Diacampo Dilina.

KERENSKY HAS CAPTURED PART OF PETROGRAD

RADICALS FLEE FROM GOVERNMENT HEADQUARTERS; RESISTANCE WEAKENING

GREAT NUMBER KILLED IN STREET FIGHTING

Casualties Steadily Increasing; Wave of Anarchy and Murder Sweeping City; Bolsheviks Well Armed.

(United Press.)
STOCKHOLM, Nov. 13.—Kerensky's troops entered Petrograd and captured part of the city, according to telegraph agency dispatches. Kerensky now controls Nevsky and Prospekt. The radicals are fleeing from the Smolny institute, their Governmental headquarters.

The Bolshevik resistance to advancing provisionals is steadily reported weaker. Sailors from the Kronstadt Garrison are aiding the Bolsheviks.

The radicals are well armed.

LONDON, Nov. 13.—It is authoritatively learned that eight hundred were killed and wounded in Petrograd and seven hundred in Moscow fighting. The number of casualties is steadily increasing as the fighting continues. The latest Petrograd dispatches report a growing wave of anarchy, robbery, murder and rapine. It is reported that Kerensky is heading two complete army corps near the city. The Bolsheviks steadily weakening.

LONDON, Nov. 13.—The Bolsheviks claim a full and complete victory at Petrograd, according to this afternoon's dispatches. Two proclamations, proudly announcing the entire defeat of Korniloff's and Kerensky's troops, were received. The radicals call Kerensky and Korniloff counter-revolutionists. The arrest of Kerensky is ordered. Caucasus front army representatives adopted resolutions opposing the Bolsheviks.

After having previously canned nearly every vegetable that grows in the valley the Eugene Fruit Growers' association has begun work on the potato and expects to put up a large quantity of it this fall and winter to be used in the army and navy.



LEADERS WANT CONFERENCE

Building Trades Heads Want to Discuss U. S. Work Conditions.

(United Press.)
BUFFALO, Nov. 13.—Building trades heads at the American Federation of Labor convention wired the President and asked for a conference to discuss with the government work conditions all over the United States.

The request followed a telegram from Secretary of War Baker warning the heads of the building trades that the strikes at Quincy, Mass., delaying the work on the destroyer plant must be quickly settled.

BUFFALO, Nov. 13.—Gompers suggested that some delegates to the convention were employed by the Burns Detective agency and were at the convention as spies in opposing the resolution demanding that a verbatim permanent record be made of all proceedings. The convention decided to keep a permanent record of only the important special articles. It is evident that labor is soundly patriotic. Patriotic speeches were loudly cheered.

WILL VISIT EASTERN OREGON

SALEM, Nov. 13.—Senator McNary has announced that he will leave for Eastern Oregon Thursday to investigate personally the effect of Houser's grain embargo, the various irrigation projects and the Hermiston cantonment site.

Be Liberal To Army Y.M.C.A.

By the Editor.
I am asked to write a front page editorial to urge the people of Union county to be liberal in the Army Y. M. C. A. drive.

I do not believe it is needed. When has Union or Wallawa counties fallen down in any national drive, Red Cross, Liberty Bonds, Library fund, food pledge cards, recruiting or anything else?

However, here goes.
The money you give the Army Y. M. C. A. is spent on our boys at the front to make them more comfortable.

What better cause in the world than this?
Don't your dollars tingle to help our heroes?

JUDGE KNOWLES IS UPHELD

Supreme Court Affirm Decision in Railroad Case.

PORTLAND, Nov. 13.—The Supreme Court affirmed the decision of Judge Knowles in the suit of Mitchell, appellant, against the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation Co. for damages for goods destroyed through alleged negligence on the part of the railroad.

Texas livestock are reported starving.

U. S. ARTILLERY DOES WELL

Americans Acquit Themselves Creditably, Baker States.

(United Press.)
WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—American artillery in France is acquitting itself very creditably secretary Baker's weekly war summary declared. Baker declared that the "Italian situation is developing normally. Experts declared that the British capture of Paschendale and German retreat from the forty square miles of territory north of Aisne is most important.

LLOYD GEORGE CRITICIZED

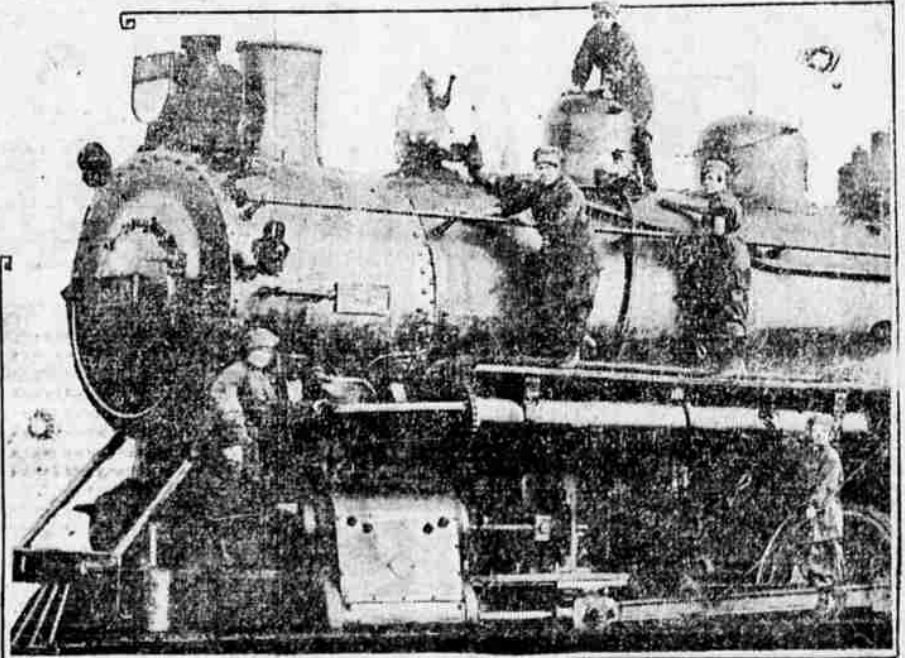
Bitter Attacks Made on Premier Following Paris Speech.

(United Press.)
LONDON, Nov. 13.—Bitter attacks were made on Lloyd George, following his frank Paris speech yesterday. Ex-Premier Asquith plainly greatly excited, demanded in the House of Commons this afternoon that Lloyd George explain his statements.

The press everywhere is criticizing Lloyd George. Cheers greeted Asquith's demands in the House of Commons. It is indicated that Lloyd George will be forced to fight bitterly to maintain his position regarding a joint allied council.

Hood River—Two new bridges across Hood River are nearing completion. They cost \$6000 each.

WOMEN WIPERS MAKE BIG "CHOO CHOO" SPICK AND SPAN



Canadian women have stepped bravely into the work their men did before they were called away for war service. Few occupations up there have not been entered by women. This engine pictured above is only one of thousands which depend upon Canadian woman labor for their daily baths. And they make good engine wipers, Toronto railroad men say, being careful to get all the grease and dirt out of the corners, which often the men wipers used to overlook.

Walsh Funeral Is Held Today

OLD TIME RESIDENT AND EX-MAYOR IS LAID TO REST.

Many Railroad Officials and Friends Attend Services Held in Catholic Church.

The body of Thomas Walsh, old time resident of La Grande, railroad man and ex-mayor, was laid to rest in the Catholic cemetery this morning. Funeral services were held at the Catholic church and were attended by a host of the friends of the deceased.

Mr. Walsh died Friday night in Spokane of blood poisoning. The news of his death was a severe blow to his friends here who remember him as a man whose friendship was valued, whose ever ready smile made him welcome to any gathering, and a man who was capable and progressive business man.

The ten living children of the family of twelve were present at the services this morning.

Mr. Walsh lived in La Grande 25 years. He came here as a dispatcher and rose to chief dispatcher and finally superintendent. In 1894 he was elected mayor of the city but resigned when his term was half over.

Pallbearers for the casket were: T. E. Buehler, J. W. Egna, F. L. Meyers, J. H. Peare, Fred Schilke, J. L. Miller.

Honorary pallbearers were: M. J. Buckley, W. Bollons, A. W. Perley, W. H. Dressell, C. J. Sutherland, J. F. Grant, A. Buckley, J. F. Corbett, J. C. Shea and Martin King.

Officials of the railroad who attended the funeral were M. J. Buckley, General Superintendent; A. W. Perley, acting General Superintendent; J. F. Graham, General Superintendent of Motive Power; C. G. Sutherland, Assistant General Manager; W. H. Dressell, Master Mechanic of First Division; Dick Buckley, Assistant Superintendent of First Division, and wife; Joseph L. Miller, Chief Clerk of Superintendent's office.

Funeral services were held at the Catholic church in La Grande.

ITALIANS BEGIN TO STIFFEN ON ENTIRE FRONT

SUCCESSFUL COUNTER-ATTACKS MADE AGAINST GERMANS; GALLILO CAPTURED

FURTHER RETIREMENT BELEIVED UNLIKELY

Soldiers and Civilians Leave Venice So That Germans Will Have No Excuse for Destruction of Art Works.

(United Press.)
WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—Official Rome cables declared that the entire Italian battle front has stiffened. The Italians successfully counter-attacked at a number of points. Further Italian retirement is believed unlikely.

Veteran Italian infantry brigades reconquered Gallilo. The fighting here was desperate and both sides lost heavily. Between the Tagliamento and Lonzago rivers a large detachment of Italians broke through the encircling body of Germans by a furious bayonet assault.

ROME, Nov. 13.—Every uniformed man has been taken from Venice and all civilians are leaving. If the Germans capture the city they will have no excuse for destroying the priceless art works. The Italians succeeded in repulsing an attack on Asigo.

SOLDIERS TO PRESENT PLAY

Military Theatians Will Stage "We Should Worry" at Tacoma.

TACOMA, Wash., Nov. 13.—Laying aside their guns and uniforms for mask and costumes, soldiers of the 363rd infantry regiment will present the farce "We Should Worry" at a downtown theatre here. They will also present the show at the new Y. M. C. A. auditorium at Camp Lewis.

C. J. McNaughton, who, as a civilian was a California producer, has charge of the affair and a number of professional actors are in the cast. Tacoma girls are helping the men put on the show.

Small change isn't necessarily short change.

Russia is short of medical supplies.

TEAMS REPORT GREAT SUCCESS IN Y. M. DRIVE

FIRST DAY'S CAMPAIGN IS SUCCESSFUL; \$2,350 RAISED RETURNS INCOMPLETE.

ALICEL MAKES GREAT RECORD; TRIPLES QUOTA

Committees Meet at Foley Hotel This Noon to Check Up; Three Teams Have Not Yet Reported.

With a flood of dollars and a burst of public approbation that surprised even the most sanguine, the first day's work in the Y. M. C. A. drive for \$7,000 in Union county came to a close today noon at a workers' luncheon at the Foley. With three La Grande teams not reporting, the total reached by seven La Grande teams and the wonderful money getters from Alicel, the total turned in today noon for the great cause was \$2,350.00. This does not include North Powder, Baker, and Sammerville.

Unquestionably Alicel, the little farming community on the San Jacinto is the first precinct in the United States. With a quota of \$1000 to raise, Captain Floyd McKeon and his noble workers had garnered over \$1000.00 at noon. This is not only nearly three times the quota but probably breaks the record for any precinct in the state of Oregon, if the truth were known.

Chairman Williams telephoned in from Alicel that their quota of \$500 would be raised by 4 this afternoon.

Sinnott is Speaker.

Nicholas J. Sinnott, M. C. for Eastern Oregon, was in the dining room of the Foley and made a call for a few minutes and in his clearest way emphasized the utter obligation of every citizen in the work of the Y. M. C. A. and, incidentally, called the Kaiser some of the things that man is. "Roman Catholics are writing their letters to their friends from the trenches on Y. M. C. A. stationery," he said, "and that is but one sign of the unity of purpose and absence of creed in this great strife." The address was inspiring.

All teams that did report made substantial showings.

Mrs. O. E. Silverthorn, ladies' team captain, recommended that the husbands leave more money at home with their wives during the campaign. Mrs. Silverthorn's team had raised \$265 in small amounts, showing the scope of their work.

Sidelights on the "Y" Drive.
Union is making a gallant effort in the drive. Yesterday chairman W. T. Wright organized eight teams to get up steam bright and early this morning. Great things are expected of the Union district. Hot Lake is apportioned to Mr. Wright's territory.

New Cashier at Work.
North Powder has a new bank cashier. He arrived yesterday and was introduced to Chairman Kiddie and Lieutenant J. Garfield King. "My institution will give as much as any and I will donate as much work as any man," was the way the new money handler spoke up in meeting. North Powder was a little late in organizing but promises to make up for lost time at once.

Poor Dog.
Were it possible, some of the funds now being raised would unquestionably be used to heal the wounds of a certain mongrel dog who got in the way of Lieutenant King's car wheels when the organizers went to North Powder yesterday. The canine was disfigured some by the contact.

General in the Field.
Chairman Kiddie is spending most of his time out on the front line trenches. Yesterday he was in North Powder.

Mr. Kiddie's personal team is under the direction of "Larry" Larson.

Luncheon on Thursday.
Alternate days is the pace set for luncheons for the workers. Thus the next one will be on Thursday noon, and "Mine Host" Snodgrass will be the caterer at the Sommer Hotel.

U. S. COMMISSIONS AVIATORS

(United Press.)
AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS, Nov. 13.—All American aviators fighting in French arialia were formally commissioned officers in the United States army aviation service today.