

## HOME GUARD TO HAVE A DRILL HALL

CITY COMMISSION APPROPRIATES \$25 A MONTH—COUN-  
TY EXPECTED TO PRO-  
VIDE UNIFORMS

### HOTELS AND ROOMING HOUSES TO BE LICENSED

City Manager Makes Report—No  
Fires for the Week—Twenty-four  
Breaks Reported in Telephone  
Line Between Intake and Whis-  
key Saddle—Heavy Snow at  
Beaver Creek.

The Home Guard will have quar-  
ters in which to drill, the City Com-  
mission at its last meeting appropri-  
ating \$25 a month rent for the  
Guard. It is expected that the coun-  
ty will furnish the uniforms so  
that the military organization for  
the defense of the county will be  
equipped with armory, uniforms,  
and it is already equipped with  
guns and ammunition by the gov-  
ernment.

The City Commission at its last  
meeting passed the ordinance lic-  
ensing hotels and rooming houses.  
The City Managers report for  
the week follows:

February 13, 1918.  
To the Honorable Commission,  
City of La Grande, Oregon.  
Gentlemen:

Fire Chief reports no fires for  
the week. Has begun checking up  
business houses relative to following  
instructions of the State Fire Ward-  
en. Fireman Ashman has tendered  
his resignation to take place Febru-  
ary 16. Water Superintendent re-  
ports total expenditure for the week  
of \$86.19, of which \$14.50 is  
charged to the water department  
and \$71.69 to the street depart-  
ment. He reports if weather con-  
ditions remain favorable will begin  
graveling G street next week.

Chief of Police reports three ar-  
rests for the week, two charged with  
being drunk, one for smoking cig-  
arettes. Total amount of fines,  
\$27.50. Number of lights out for  
the week, 24.

Had Pennsylvania avenue, M  
street and Y avenue run over with  
the grader to fill the ruts and deep  
holes caused by recent weather.

Care-taker Woods reports 24  
breaks in the line between the in-  
take and Whiskey Saddle. These  
breaks were caused by heavy wind  
which blew trees across the telephone  
line. He reports three and a half  
feet of snow and still snowing.

Request has been made for plank  
crossing under railroad track at  
Greenwood. Inspected City gar-  
bage dump and found that city scav-

(Continued on Page 2.)

## RUSSIA IS IN STATE OF WAR WITH TEUTONS

(United Press.)  
AMSTERDAM, Feb. 15.—Berlin  
semi-official dispatches declare a  
state of war exists between Russia  
and the Central powers, owing to an  
automatic termination of the armis-  
tice with the close of peace negotia-  
tions.

### Vernon Castle Is Killed at Fort Worth

British Aviation Captain and World  
Famous Dancer Meets Death.

FORT WORTH, Texas, Feb. 15.—  
Vernon Castle, the British aviation  
captain and the world's highest salar-  
ied dancer, was killed in a falling  
airplane this morning.

He had been stationed here sev-  
eral months as an instructor.

He was trying to land while in-  
structing an American student and  
served to avoid a collision with  
another of the American flyers.

Lewis D. Holder Dies at Imbler  
Lewis D. Holder, proprietor of the  
Imbler Meat Market, died at his resi-  
dence in Imbler last night after an  
extended illness. The remains were  
brought to this city last night and  
are now at the Bohnenkamp chapel,  
preparatory to shipment to More, Ore-  
gon, this evening.

### NEW FAVORITE IN WASHINGTON



Mrs. Wm. V. Pruett

One of the newest arrivals in the  
military social circles at Washing-  
ton is Mrs. William Pruett, wife of  
Lieutenant Pruett of the Medical  
Reserve Corps. Mrs. Pruett is from  
Tennessee, and has entertained ex-  
tensively since her arrival. She has  
proven a great favorite.

### WAR INSURANCE IS NOT FOR FIANCEES

(United Press.)  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Opera-  
tion of the War Risk  
Insurance is breaking the  
heart and the hope of many  
a Sammie's fiancée.

A large number of soldiers  
applying for insurance have  
named their fiancées as bene-  
ficiaries, but have been in-  
formed that this is against  
the rules of War Risk Insur-  
ance.

Only a wife, husband, child,  
grandchild, brother, sister,  
adopted brother or sister,  
stepbrother or stepfather, par-  
ent or step-parent of the in-  
sured can be named as a ben-  
eficiary.

## RUMANIA IS EXPECTED TO MAKE PEACE

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 15.—Vienna  
semi-officially reports that the an-  
nouncement that Rumania is ready  
to negotiate a separate peace with  
the Teutons is expected shortly.

### Weeks Says Baker Gives False Idea

(United Press.)  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Declaring  
a "false impression" is being  
given the country about the number  
of American troops in Europe, Sen-  
ator Weeks, defending Senator Cham-  
berlain, declared only 54 per cent  
of the force Secretary Baker said  
would be there by today have landed  
in France. "Those favoring the Cham-  
berlain plan are called pirates, med-  
dlers and even enemy spies, discredit-  
ing loyal attempts to increase war ef-  
ficiency."

### Late Wire Bulletins

ENEMY SINKS TRAWLER  
(United Press.)  
LONDON, Feb. 15.—The Ad-  
miralty announced the enemy  
destroyer sank a trawler and seven  
drifters in the Straits of Dover  
this afternoon and escaped.

VIOLENT ARTILLERY DUELS  
(United Press.)  
PARIS, Feb. 15.—Violent ma-  
tural cannonading along a wide  
front, especially through the  
Champagne region, continues.  
American artillery is stationed  
there.

THE WAR ON MANY FRONTS  
(United Press.)  
LONDON, Feb. 15.—The Bel-  
gians repelled German raid west  
of Dierckem. Enemy artillery is  
active around Quessant. The Brit-  
ish took prisoners raiding parties  
near Lens. In Palestine the Brit-  
ish advanced nine miles east of  
Jerusalem on a six-mile front.

Grants Prize—Large quantities of  
chrome ore hauled from the Waldo  
mines.

Cottage Grove Manufacturing Co.  
to enlarge its plant.

## NINTH INNING OF BIG WAR IS ABOUT TO START

KAISER IS ABOUT TO SEND IN  
PINCH HITTERS TO TRY  
TO TIE THE SCORE

### DARK HORSE AMERICANS ALSO TO BE CALLED OUT

World Series Here at the Front—  
Wonders if the Folks at Home  
Will Back Up Their Team in the  
Big Game Three Thousand Miles  
Away.

By J. W. Pegeler  
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)  
WITH THE AMERICAN EXPE-  
DITIONARY ARMY, FRANCE, Jan.  
15.—(By Mail.)—"I wonder if the  
folks back home realize that we  
fellows will be going up against the  
real thing pretty soon."

A world's series hero of a few  
seasons back thus expressed the per-  
plexity that is bothering thousands  
of thinking Sammies. To them the  
war is becoming more and more im-  
minent with each sun-down.

Last summer they measured by  
months the period before they will  
go into the line against the "real  
thing." Now they calculate the  
time by weeks—assuming without  
any official information, that our  
Army will go into the line during  
the Winter or Spring.

The big red-haired ball-player is  
color-sergeant of a champion regi-  
ment which practices Democracy to  
the full. He was sitting in his  
Colonel's office airing his views  
which are typical of those to be  
heard nowadays from one end to the  
other of this widely scattered war  
camp.

"Anyone keeping in touch with  
the dope, in this war league can see  
that the Kaiser's about to send in  
all his pinch-hitters, trying to win  
in the ninth," he said.

"As I see it, the Allies are about  
one run ahead. The Kaiser has a  
chance to tie the score this winter  
and send the old war game into  
extra innings."

"Now suppose the Allies show  
signs of wobbling. What will hap-  
pen?"

"Well, what would any wise  
bench-manager do if he saw his  
club beginning to falter in the Ninth  
with the game already on ice? Why  
he'd call in those dark-horse Amer-  
ican ball-players who've been warn-  
ing up back under the grandstand  
the last six months waiting for a  
chance to show what they can do  
in a pinch."

The ex-home-run smatter leaned  
forward for a reflective moment,  
stirring the fire in the colonel's  
stove with a twig from the kind-  
ling-box. Here in an ugly little  
French village, thousands of miles  
from the velvet diamonds of the Na-

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### SUGAR FOOD CHIEF WORKS FOR NOTHING

(United Press.)  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—George M. Ralph, head of the  
sugar division of the food  
administration, appears to be  
the most overworked and un-  
derpaid government employee.  
The Senate sugar probe devel-  
oped Ralph is working from  
eight a. m. to midnight, re-  
ceiving no salary and paying  
his own expenses.

## IMPORTS AND EXPORTS ARE TO BE LICENSED

PRESIDENT ISSUES PROCLAMA-  
TION ORDERING NEW REG-  
ULATION OF COMMERCE

(United Press.)  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Presi-  
dent Wilson has issued a proclama-  
tion licensing the nation's entire  
foreign commerce.

Beginning tomorrow a special li-  
cense will be necessary for the im-  
portation or exportation of any com-  
modity.

Restrictions are necessitated by  
the increased ship shortage and the  
increased demand for ships for  
allied supplies. This is one of  
the most far-reaching steps Presi-  
dent Wilson has taken, involving  
delicate diplomatic questions and  
sharp encroachment not only of  
American industry but the commerce  
of all neutrals. The regulation of  
shipping will be exercised by Presi-  
dent Wilson through a war-trade  
board "with the single purpose of  
winning the war."

Every effort will be made not to  
interfere with foreign commerce  
except for some definite project in  
the prosecution of the war.

## Explosion on Battleship Utah, 1 Killed

(United Press.)  
ATLANTIC PORT, Feb. 15.—  
One officer was killed and several  
sailors seriously wounded by an  
explosion aboard the battleship  
Utah this afternoon.

Initiative bill proposes to abolish  
Railroad Commission to save \$50,-  
000 a year.

## OVER FIFTY ORPHANS DIE IN BIG FIRE

HOME OF THE GREY NUNS IN  
MONTREAL IS SCENE  
OF TRAGEDY

### MANY SURVIVORS MAY DIE FROM EXPOSURE

It May Take a Week to Complete  
Death List—Returned Soldiers  
Rescue Many Children.

(United Press.)  
MONTREAL, Feb. 15.—Over fifty  
orphans are dead as the result of a  
fire which partly destroyed the Grey  
nuns' home of the Grey Nuns.

Scores of other inmates, including  
convalescent soldiers from France,  
nurses, aged and crippled adults  
and children were saved though it  
is feared many of the survivors may  
die as a result of the shock and ex-  
posure.

It may take a week to complete  
the death list.

The returned soldiers rescued  
numerous children and adults, pass-  
ing them along in a living chain  
down the fire escapes.

## AUSTRIA IS ANXIOUS TO GET PEACE

WOULD GIVE HER SOUL AND  
ALMOST SURRENDER TRI-  
ESTE TO END WAR

By William Philip Simms  
(Copyright 1918, by United Press.)  
BERNE, Switzerland, Feb. 15.—  
Cordially hating Germany, but ir-  
revocably attached to her Austria  
would almost give her soul for  
peace.

A returned American official says  
he is convinced officials are willing  
to meet all Italian demands but  
the surrendering of Trieste if it will  
bring peace.

The masses would even relinquish  
Trieste if it would end the war.

BAKER TELLS OF ATTEMPT  
TO DERAIL TRAIN  
BAKER, Feb. 15.—An attempt to  
wreck the O-W passenger train No.  
17 (west bound) was frustrated when  
the switch crew this morning removed  
a tie from the tracks in the south-end  
yards which was not fastened down.  
Probably it would only have derailed  
the engine.

### LIVE WIRE BOSS OF LOAN PUBLICITY



Frank R. Wilson

Frank R. Wilson, newspaper man,  
is to be the big boss of the publicity  
for the Third and Fourth Liberty  
Loans when the campaigns get  
hot.

Wilson's regular job here has  
been assistant secretary of the Fed-  
eral Farm Loan Board, but every  
time there was a Liberty Loan cam-  
paign, McAdoo borrowed him.

Wilson acted as his advance  
agent, and went all over the coun-  
try. In this work he won a wide  
acquaintance with the men who will  
direct in future campaigns—also he  
won with these men a reputation  
as a "live wire."

### JAP POLICE SHARE IN WAR PROSPERITY

(United Press.)  
TOKYO, Dec. 22.—(By  
Mail.)—Even the policemen  
in Tokyo are sharing in Jap-  
anese war prosperity. Of the  
5,000 bluecoats in the capital  
3,883 have had their salaries  
raised, so that now an ordi-  
nary every-day "copper" draws  
from \$7.50 to \$12.50 as his  
monthly stipend. This is an  
increase of about \$1 per  
month. Even richer remunera-  
tion is given the senior po-  
licemen who now receive be-  
tween \$10 and \$14 monthly,  
while the salaries of the as-  
sistant sergeants, under the  
new order, will range as high  
as \$12 and \$15.

## Labor Needed to Help Build Our Ships

PATRIOTIC SERVICES OF COM-  
PETENT MEN CALLED FOR  
BY CHAIRMAN HURLEY

T. J. Scroggin, chairman of the  
Union County Council of Defense,  
has received a letter from E. N.  
Hurley of the Shipping Board which  
urges competent men to enlist in  
the ship-building game. Union  
county men may register at the  
City Hall, La Grande, or with F. E.  
Smith, Elgin; Karl Stackland, Cove;  
or with any member of the County  
Council of Defense. The letter from  
Mr. Hurley follows:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5, 1918.  
Mr. T. J. Scroggin, Chairman,  
Union County Council of Defense,  
La Grande, Oregon.

Dear Mr. Scroggin:—  
Because of your official position,  
and the vital importance of the  
work of enrolling the United States  
Shipyard Volunteers, in which you  
are engaged, I desire to lay before  
you a statement outlining the ship-  
building situation.

The information herein contained  
is placed at your disposal, for use  
as you may see fit in obtaining the  
enrollment of the necessary men for  
the United States Shipyard Volun-  
teers.

Our shipbuilding program con-  
templates the construction of six  
million tons annually, but owing to  
the want of the necessary skilled  
men, we are not under present con-  
ditions in a position to turn out  
that tonnage.

The Shipping Board has the mon-  
ey. It has the yards. It has the  
material. The housing question is  
being rapidly cleared up. All that  
is needed is to obtain the necessary  
efficient labor.

It should be brought home to  
employers and to the employees of  
the industries of the nation that  
their own future depends on the  
construction of these ships. The  
fact is that the recent order issued  
by Fuel Administrator Garfield closing  
the factories of the whole coun-  
try, and the more recent freight em-  
bargo issued by Secretary McAdoo,  
tying up all the freight with the ex-  
ception of food and fuel, came not  
because of a falling down on the  
part of the carriers themselves.

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## WEST FRONT THREATS MAY BE CAMOUFLAGE

GERMANY MAY PLAN MAJOR  
ATTACKS IN BALKANS  
AND ITALY

### TIRED AND EXHAUSTED TROOPS IN WEST REPLACED

Military Officers Are Not Apprehen-  
sive Over a Drive in Balkans and  
Italy as Allied Forces There Are  
Strong.

(United Press.)  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Allied  
military officers here predict Ger-  
many plans major offensive in the  
Balkans and Italy and is spreading  
the news of west front preparations  
in order to camouflage this movement.

The result of the troop move-  
ments from the East has been the replace-  
ment of tired and decimated divisions  
with fresh divisions, with an appreci-  
able numerical strengthening at only  
one point, they say.

Military officers are not apprehen-  
sive over such a drive, saying the  
allied forces in the Balkans and Italy  
are strong.

They admit, however, if Germany  
takes Venice, she will be able to bring  
men and supplies over the Adriatic  
from Trieste instead of over the Alps.

## PERSHING WILL USE POISON GAS SHELLS

DEADLY CAMPAIGN WILL BE  
WAGED AGAINST GERMANS.  
REQUEST GRANTED BY  
HOUSE COMMITTEE

(United Press.)  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Testi-  
mony before the House appropriation  
committee, just announced, shows that  
America is preparing a great poison  
gas campaign.

Deadly gas shells now await ship-  
ment.

General Pershing's urgent requests  
for poison gas plants in America and  
France were granted by the House  
committee.

Experts will work to develop dead-  
lier gases.

## TRAVELING LIBRARIES COME TO LA GRANDE

Local Library Now Acts as Distribut-  
ing Agent for the County—Ship-  
ment of 150 Volumes Just  
Received

A long step forward was made by  
the La Grande Public Library when it  
was selected as an exchange point for  
traveling libraries from the Oregon  
State Library. At present the local  
library has no appropriation for car-  
rying on work outside the city. What  
books it has are needed for city work,  
although some individual borrowers  
come from places near La Grande.

Under the new plan, the La Grande  
library acts as distributing agent  
through the county, for books supplied  
by the state library. There are four  
traveling library stations in Union  
county. Each traveling library is a  
unit collection of fifty books, to be  
exchanged intact. To these may be  
added any number of general loan vol-  
umes now on the shelves of the La  
Grande public library. In the mean-  
time, La Grande people have the use  
of these extra books. A shipment of  
150 volumes has just been received  
and may be borrowed by any citizen  
free of charge.

The books have been selected in ac-  
cordance with suggestions from the  
reading public. About thirty of the  
books have already been reserved for  
persons who requested them.  
Among those remaining are books on  
chemistry, shop work, electricity,  
home economics, music and travel.

Twenty-four of these volumes were  
taken out the first day they were on  
the shelves, before they had been ad-  
vertised in the newspaper.

## THE WEATHER

PORTLAND, Feb. 15.—The  
U. S. weather forecast: "Rain  
or snow."

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