

CHAOS RULES RUSSIA STILL

STUBBORN DEFENSE OF PETROGRAD ORDERED BY BOL-SHEVIKI LEADERS

**INDEMNITY FIGURES OUT
DRASTICALLY IS REPORT**

Situation in Russia Remains Indefinite, Demobilization Having Been Ordered in the Face of Recaptulation Order Issued Yesterday.

LONDON, Feb. 20.—General Hoffman, leader of the German military forces at Brest-Litovsk, demands proof of Russian willingness to meet the German terms, as announced last night. Petrograd has wirelessed no. He wants to see Lenin and Trotsky.

Some Resistance Ordered.
PETROGRAD, Feb. 20.—Uncertainties of the Bolshevik rule have been again emphasized today when demobilization of the Russian army and fleet was stopped and troops ordered to resist the Germans and evacuate their positions only when necessary and to destroy property as they retire. Preparations are being made for a stubborn defense of Petrograd.

Parley Is Offered.
LONDON, Feb. 20.—Delayed Petrograd dispatches say that Trotsky has told the German leaders at the Brest-Litovsk conference reduced the indemnity demand from four billion to a billion and a half.

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 20.—"Germany will not allow Finland, Lithuania or Ukraine to be ruined by Bolshevik excesses. We'll see what effect the new military plans have." Kuehman told the Reichstag today.

Germans Continue Advance
BERLIN, Feb. 20.—Besides advancing toward Petrograd from Riga, the Germans have advanced beyond Lutsk and Dvinsk, taking 2000 prisoners, hundreds of machine guns and considerable rolling stock.

RUN ALL TRAINS OVER ONE LINE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Curtailed passenger traffic by sharp rate increases, and elimination of competing overnight trains between East and Middle West are expected soon. Simultaneously, interchangeable tickets will be introduced to minimize inconvenience. These will be ordered as soon as details are completed. It is learned "passengerless days" are considered but were deemed unnecessary in view of the better weather.

The new order will make possible routing all night trains over one line, leaving others free for freight. A campaign to fill all upper as well as lower berths has been started, as the trains run only when fully loaded.

EXCURSION SATURDAY NIGHT

Knights of Pythias to Leave for Elgin Convention at 6:30

Next Saturday evening Knights of Pythias of La Grande, Union and surrounding districts will leave for Elgin via special train to attend the annual convention of the Union-Wallowa County district. All knights are urged to notify J. H. Keeney at once and procure their tickets early that the required number to cover the cost of the special may be obtained.

ELKS' DANCE NEAR

Annual Ball and Banquet to Be Held Friday Evening

Elks from Eastern Oregon are looking forward with a great deal of interest to the annual ball and banquet, which will be held next Friday evening at the Elks temple. Preparation for a very enjoyable time at the informal function is made. It is to be informal—that is emphasized by the committee.

WALLOWA MAN IS SAFE

Word Reaches Oregon That Missing Tuscana Passenger Is Found.

A great deal of relief was felt last evening when J. W. Pearce received a telegram from Representative Nick Sinnott saying that Henry C. Murphy, of Wallowa, who was a passenger on the ill-fated Tuscana, had been located. His fate was unknown for several days.

Unsinkable Ship Mystifies Public: Inventor Confident



These pictures show William J. Donnelly of New York, inventor of the "unsinkable ship."

MILLS FACE A SERIOUS CRISIS

E. E. Kiddle, president of the several Kiddle flouring mills in this valley, returned today from Portland where he attended a meeting of millers of the Northwest, called together by T. B. Wilcox, chairman of the eighth zone, better known as the North Pacific milling division of the U. S. Food Administration. The meeting was called for the purpose of discussing the advisability and securing permission to get a larger allotment of grain for the mills to grind in the Northwest division as most of the mills have nearly ground out their allotment and, under present government regulations would be shut down in a short time.

"Conditions are more serious than people realize as to the necessity of conserving wheat products and the necessity of feed for stock and the inability to secure ocean tonnage is one of the principal reasons for not putting all mills on a grain basis," said Mr. Kiddle. "The advisability of making only grain flour was considered. There is no danger of shortage for home consumption or of famine, as there is plenty for all our home needs but the question is: How much are we going to be able to supply to our Allies? There is no use in housewives storing or hoarding flour as the government will investigate conditions and no doubt will adopt stringent measures against guilty parties, as has already been done in several instances. The slogan is 'Eat more vegetables and fruit, and less flour.'"

The advisability of the mills calling in all their salesmen and stopping all advertisements was considered but conclusions were reached to have salesmen urge their customers to buy as little flour as possible and word advertisements urging people to conserve flour and use more substitutes.

The appeal is based on the expectation of ocean tonnage which can be furnished at export points on the Pacific coast.

Portland Pottery Market.
That Portland, Tacoma and Seattle will be made primary markets on a basis with Chicago prices for grain for the coming season, was announced at Portland yesterday during a meeting of the millmen of the Northwest. This means that Grande Ronde farmers will get the Chicago price at Portland instead of Chicago, which heretofore has prevailed and cost about 15 cents per cwt. less to the farmer over the present arrangement. However the proposed Cere bill in the Senate makes the farmer's shipping point the primary market, which would entirely revolutionize the present market. Hence the whole matter is dependent on Senatorial action and Congressional action.

TRIAL NEARING THE END

Richard Robert Soon to Know Fate of Charges Preferred

Circuit Court today is taken up with consideration of charges of assault and robbery with a dangerous weapon, filed against Richard Roberts, a local young man, as a result of a recent spectacular holdup of the Silver Grill. The case will likely go to the jury early tomorrow. John S. Hodgins is handling the state's case, and Attorneys Cochran & Eberhard the defense.

Foley Guests.—Guests at the Foley place: Elsie Harvey, Casey; J. W. Rickford, Elgin; Mrs. J. D. Fontaine, Kamela; J. H. Minnaugh, Wallowa; J. D. Hock, Joseph; Ed. Davis, North Powder.

ALLIES HOLDING WHIP HAND

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—Secretary of War Baker's weekly war review says both the allies and Germany are ready to battle on the west front. He says that while Germany has drawn many units from the east these are unfamiliar to the west front tactics. The general staff hopes to deliver a crushing blow by massed attack of shock troops. It is announced an important body of German cavalry is near Riga. He believes the Germans "may find it expedient to advance on Petrograd," and he said a retreat of the Russians before the Turks has resulted in Russian evacuation of Armenian centers south of the Black Sea. Trebizond will not likely fall into Turkish hands soon.

The allies are now superior to the Teutons in the west, both in men and guns. Allied-American experts state, agreeing that the Allies are ready to meet any Teuton blow. They declare Germany has probably "over prepared" and is playing a waiting game until the allies are now ready. The Allied lines are so disposed that they probably will be able to convert a German smash into an Allied victory.

American troops will participate in any big push as a considerable number of new seasoned fighters are ready.

When told of a dispatch from Washington published yesterday morning to the effect that the shipping board had detailed a special board to witness tests of the ship, and that this board made a report against the invention, Mr. Donnelly said: "Whoever says any such thing says what isn't true. We were all ready to make a test by waterlogging the Lucia in drydock and were very anxious to do it, but nothing came of it."

"There has been no test, and right

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LA GRANDERS SEEK SCHOOL

ORGANIZATION PERFECTED TO GAIN PROSPECTIVE NORMAL FOR LA GRANDE

MEASURE MUST FIRST GO BEFORE STATE POLLS

Committee Named Yesterday Afternoon to Promote the Movement Which Looks Toward Bringing Proposed Normal School to La Grande—Other Towns Active Too.

A meeting of unusual importance was held at the city hall yesterday afternoon, having for its purpose the initiation of an effort by the people of this city to secure the normal school which will come to Eastern Oregon if the measure placed upon the ballot for the November election, is carried.

The last legislature submitted to the people a proposal for the establishment of two more normal schools for the State. There had been three such schools in Oregon for years but a resentment against the log-rolling conditions cropping up at each successive session, in which these schools became involved caused one session to cut off their appropriations. That the state needs the schools is widely known and admitted. Experience has proven that the one school at Monmouth cannot supply the demand for trained teachers and that the grade schools of the state, particularly the rural schools, have and will suffer unless provision is made for adequate teacher training facilities.

The bill before the people provides for a school in Southern Oregon and one in Eastern Oregon. The particular location for the Eastern Oregon school will be determined by the State Board of Normal School Regents. It has become known that the individual members of that board have strongly expressed themselves as being absolutely neutral as between the several communities of this section of the state which may be prospective candidates for the institution. They have made it plain that any one city has an equal chance with each other city; the determination of the question to depend upon the relative merits of the several propositions presented to the Board by Eastern Oregon communities after the people shall have approved the measure.

The people of La Grande understand that several other Eastern Oregon cities are to make an effort

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MILITARISTS "GET" GERMAN SOCIALIST



F. K. Dittmann
For a long time F. K. Dittmann, German Reichstag deputy, was a "marked man." He's a Socialist and was always saying things the militarists didn't like. But for what he said they couldn't touch him. The militarists "waited." Now Dittmann is in jail. He was indiscreet enough, it appears, to leave the Reichstag and try to make a radical speech to a crowd of Berlin strikers.

HOSPITAL UNIT GIVEN PRAISE

How well the La Grande Hospital Unit is showing up in France, and how France is appreciating the unit, is rapidly told in an interesting letter to Mrs. J. J. Carr from Major J. P. Graham, commander of the unit. The letter says:

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE,
January 15, 1918.

It seems quite a long time since we left our own home and country and I think we are just beginning to realize that we are a long way from home.

On the day that arrives in camp, you hear a happy shout from the boys as they gather round to see who is the lucky fellow, and you often hear: "No letters for me!" Those who are remembered care not if they don't get well up in the line for mess, and that is a very important position, for when you are through with the first helping you can fall in at the end of the line again for "seconds."

I have just finished reading a bundle of La Grande Evening Observer that one of the boys gave me, and while they are several months old, still I read them through from cover to cover—advertisements and all.

I mention this to show you that we are very much interested in the folks at home, and very grateful for the things you are doing and have done for us. The remark has often been made that if it was not for the people of La Grande and Union County we would not be remembered very often as this unit has not received any remembrances from any other sources.

I see by the Observer, and from letters the boys get from home, that we are not forgotten, and that you are still working to keep our company fund supplied. If I was permitted I would like to go into detail and tell you all about it, but will try and tell you a few things we have done and what we intend to do with it.

In the first place we keep a careful record of all the money used, and these records are carefully preserved so that we can give an accounting of the fund to any one and at any time. We still have some of our company fund left and have been very careful that none is used but what every one in the unit is benefited thereby. We as all the boys for suggestions as to what is needed and try to supply all wants as far as possible. We hope in the near future, when we are in active service and running a hospital, to use the fund in caring for our sick and enabling us to take care of any emergency that may arise.

Most of the time we have been so isolated that it was impossible to secure anything at any price. I am trying to convey to you the idea that we feel better when we have 20 cents in our pocket, than when dead broke and with unforeseen events ahead—we like to be prepared. I believe in being prepared for a rainy day and that is what we are trying to do.

But, Mrs. Carr, you must not imagine us as a bunch of under-fed, scrawny, worn-out chaps, with no pep, for we are just the opposite. The uniforms the boys wore when they left the States are too small now and we have to ask for larger sizes. Even the shoes they wore are too small now and they wear a size or two larger.

Last Saturday at our regular

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FUEL RATION ORDER GIVEN

ALL OFFICE BUILDINGS WILL BE COLD AFTER 5 O'CLOCK HEREAFTER

SLIGHT INDECISION HAS BEEN CREATED BY ORDER

Does Order Govern Cigar and Other Stores Quarters in Office Buildings? Is Query—Administrator Out of Town and Ruling Awaited.

La Grande along with other towns in Oregon, tonight goes on a fuel ration so far as office buildings are concerned. F. J. Holmes, fuel administrator for Oregon, yesterday issued an order closing off heat in all office buildings at night, effective this evening.

Mr. Holmes left last evening for Portland and local landlords will not be able to get an interpretation of the order which deals only with office buildings, but in some instances stores are included in office buildings.

It is specifically stated in the order that office buildings are involved, but where cigar stores and other businesses occupy quarters in office buildings, the ruling does not specify what shall happen to the store rooms as regards heat. It is expected that in most instances the landlords will interpret the order to mean only the offices of any building and that store rooms on the first floor or elsewhere of such structures are not included. If this is the case, incorrectly interpreted, the order will be nullified later.

The character of fuel used for heating purposes has no bearing. The order, in full, says:

"As Federal Fuel Administrator for the State of Oregon, I hereby issue the following order:

"Beginning Wednesday, February 20, 1918, in all office buildings in the state the heat shall be turned off at 5:30 p. m. each day and shall remain so turned off until 7 a. m. the following morning.

This order will be enforced regardless of the kind of fuel used or how the heat is manufactured.

FRED J. HOLMES,
Federal Fuel Administrator
for Oregon."

LOAN DRIVE IS PUT OFF AGAIN

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—It is authoritatively stated that because of subnormal and economic business conditions the third Liberty Loan has been postponed until April 1 or later. When normal conditions are restored they probably will bear four and a half per cent interest. Idleness caused by fuelless days, transportation congestion and bad weather, preventing big rallies are among the factors causing the postponement.

FACULTY OF U. OF O. MUST BE LOYAL

EUGENE, Feb. 20.—Regents of the University of Oregon will not tolerate disloyal expression of opinion or acts by any member of the faculty. A resolution adopted by the board of regents makes it plain that prompt dismissal will follow in charges of disloyalty are found true.

The resolution points out that "It has come to the knowledge of the regents that reports and rumors are in circulation questioning the loyalty of some of the instructors." The regents recognize the right of the instructional forces or other employees of the university to their private opinions on political and economic questions and concerning the present war, the resolution says, but heartily deprecate any expression of opinion or any statement, act or conduct on the part of instructors and employees, indicating disloyalty.

The president is required to promptly report to the executive committee the name of any instructor or employee accused in writing by any responsible person and the committee will investigate.

All members of the present board of regents were re-elected at the annual meeting, to their respective positions. Judge R. S. Bean continues to be president. The leave of absence of Dean D. Walter Morton was terminated and he will return to the university on April 1.

ATTENDS REDMOND SCHOOL

George T. Cochran, superintendent of Water District No. 2, left last evening for Redmond, where he will act as instructor, for two days, in the O. A. C. farm school there. His topic is irrigation.



Photographs of actual air battles have been mighty few. And here is one of the best ever taken. It shows the French plane (at the top) maneuvering for position preparatory to swooping down on the German flier below. The German plane was downed in a sharp machine gun duel shortly after this picture was snapped. This photo was taken by an observer in a other French biplane.