

## JAP-AMERICAN ALLIANCE DEPENDS ON THE OUTCOME IN RUSSIA

### If Movement Toward Siberia Is Made It Will Be a Joint Enterprise With a Full Statement of Aims Promulgated In Advance.

## CABINET WILL PROBABLY TALK IT OVER

### OPPOSITION OF RUSSIAN FACTIONS IS FEARED

### ALL IS LEFT FOR UNCLE SAM'S DECISION

### Answer Will Likely Follow Insistence of Allies For An Early Decision.

(United Press)

WASHINGTON, March 1.—Up to this date neither President Wilson nor Secretary Lansing have given out any decision regarding Japanese intervention in Siberia but it is likely that an answer to the Japanese suggestions will be made as soon as it is evident that the Allies become sufficiently pressing for a decision. The Allies have left the question up to America to decide whether the Japs shall act alone, or in conjunction with the United States or whether the project should be abandoned altogether.

The American decision hinges largely on the outcome of the present German invasion of Russia. If this is stopped President Wilson may decide that the Siberian move will not be necessary, as it would be likely to cause the Russian factions to misinterpret the motives.

Russian diplomats suggest that the undertaking by the Japanese alone would cause trouble. It is very essential that whatever action is taken should be made jointly with a full explanation and statement of the aims in advance. All the Allies are in favor of the expedition as outlined by Japan.

### German Clandestine Suggested.

WASHINGTON, March 1.—There will be a meeting of the cabinet this afternoon at which the Siberian matter will probably be discussed. Some officials fear that many Russians will join the Germans if Japan undertakes to enter Siberia, and, in explanation of this view, say that the German "Berlin to Tokio" threat is in reality a German-made "Hobgoblin" to cause Japan to enter Siberia and thus cause a split among the Russians.

After the British ambassador had had a conference with Secretary Lansing the latter took the matter up with President Wilson.

### Enemy Attack Repelled.

LONDON, March 1.—British raids have taken place North of the Ypres-Staden railway. There is mutual artillerying East of Ypres near Vaucerie. The French and American forces repelled an organized enemy attack southeast of Butte-du-Edail.

Congratulations are being showered on Dr. and Mrs. A. C. McCown over the birth of an eight-pound girl.

Fred Ashley of Enterprise is expected in town today on business.

## AMERICAN ARTILLERY AVENGES THE GERMAN GAS ATTACK

(United Press.)

ON THE FRONT WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, March 1.—American artillerymen have avenged the recent German gas attack by completely leveling the trench from which the gas bombs were fired, in which five

## Moose Lodge has New Silk Flag

The Moose Lodge of La Grande has a new silk flag which is not only a thing of beauty but is treasured as the insignia of loyalty by the members of the order. The Moose Lodges throughout the country, be it known, are very active in various activities for the promotion of war work benefits. As one single instance of this sort of patriotic effort the Moose lodge is collecting a fund of \$500,000 for war charities. It is estimated that there are 100,000 members of the order in war service in the American and Canadian contingents.

The new flag is hand made and to Mrs. A. M. Birdsell of this city is due the honor of its artistic creation. The flag is now on display in the window at Young's confectionery on Adams avenue.

### COAL ORDER IS DEFENDED

### Congressman Rainey Charges Difficulty to Transportation.

WASHINGTON, March 1.—Defending Fuel Administrator Garfield's coalless order Congressman Rainey declared in the House today that the fuel situation was so serious that all the Allied cause was threatened after January 15 when the American lines of communication with France were "absolutely destroyed" owing to the clogged condition of transportation which did not allow coal or steel to reach the steamships. The sudden fuelless order was imperatively necessary in order to coal 250 ships which were ready to sail. He said the railroad tie-up had lowered projectible steel shipments 45 percent, but after the fuelless order supplies have been moving regularly Franceward. He says there was nothing the matter with the coal but with the transportation.

## School Children are Complimented

School Superintendent Ivanhoe made a special address today in the nature of a complimentary appreciation of the splendid work done by the pupils of Dry Creek school district, three miles north of Summerville. On the face of the record made this appreciation was well deserved and naturally elicited the most heart-felt accord on the part of Mrs. Ivanhoe.

There are but eighteen pupils in the Dry Creek school and every last one of them have gone over the top and much more to spare. The pupils alone have purchased \$1,003 worth of stamps and the total amount sold in the district is \$2,151. This is the condensed record of War Stamp speed as shown by the Dry Creek school.

### TEN AMERICANS CAPTURED

According to Reports Coming From German Sources.

BERLIN, via London, March 1.—At Moseyn, 50 miles South of Minsk, the Germans captured a flotilla. The German army has reached Dnepel on the north of the Ukraine front, capturing Rjetchiza, after a hot fight near Chakningon. Ten Americans were captured.

## AMERICAN ARTILLERY AVENGES THE GERMAN GAS ATTACK

American soldiers were killed and sixty others overcome. French aviators directed the fire which completely destroyed the trench batteries and demolished the trench. There are no accurate figures as to the German mortality. Rain continues along the battle front.

## Our Great American Home



## HIGH SCHOOL GRABS THE PENNANT

The La Grande high school basketball team won the undisputed Eastern Oregon championship and established a mighty good claim to the state championship when they gave the Baker high school team a full-sized trimming in the local gym last evening. The final score was 65 to 11 with Baker mighty lucky to get the 11.

Garity and Taylor were the principal point getters of the locals, "Toots" scoring 26 points and Tom 26, while McDonald at center and Judy Ash and Mose Lyman at guard kept the visitors from scoring with the exception of four field goals which they managed to slip in the hoop.

Shaw of Baker refereed and gave the local fans heart failure by his actions in calling fouls on the locals. He evidently is used to having pink ties served at the games played in his home town, since the players had to walk on their toes with fingers crossed and talk in a whisper. The local boys are used to going at top speed but were unable to under those conditions, and the game was the slowest played here this season.

The La Grande team closed the season with last night's game and have gone through the season without being defeated by a high school team in Oregon. They have scored, in the last three games played, 189 points to their opponents', 27. Following is last night's line-up with the individual scores:

- Taylor, F. 25
- Garity, F. 26
- McDonald, C. 10
- Ash, Capt. J. G.
- Lyman, G. 4

### HORSES SELL WELL

### Large Number of Buyers Have Made Many Purchases.

The sale of horses has been among the prominent activities in the community in recent days. There have been probably a half dozen purchasers in the local market and nearly all have made purchases. Mr. Day, the Colorado buyer, recently sent out two car loads and also a car of cattle.

The horses mostly in demand are of the draft class and they are to be used in general farm work. Good young horses of the draft class have been selling at \$150 to \$200 a head.

### Mooney Retrial Is Denied.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 1.—The Supreme Court has denied a retrial for Mooney and only the Governor or the President can save his life.

## Local Mills are Not Yet Affected

Local lumbering mills are not affected, at least not at present, in the government operation of plants and adoption of the basic eight hour day. This order, according to present understandings of things, applies only to spruce lumber mills and does not affect the mills with fir and pine products. Mr. George Palmer, of the Palmer Lumber company, stated to the Observer today: "We have not yet received any notification of having been placed under the new governmental regime and assume that our plant will continue as usual. However, we expect to know definitely as to all the conditions the fore part of the coming week."

## Service Flag Is Still on Display

It has been decided to keep the O-W-R & N. service flag in La Grande for a day or two longer and it is still at the employees' club rooms on Fir street. The officials would like that all who have not had the stars of their friends or relatives affixed to do so. There appears to be something like fourteen stars yet to be attached to the flag to show the list of the company's employees who are now with the colors in some part of the world. It is desired to have the service flag as fully complete as possible in its decorations of honor.

## THE LAST WORD IN COMMANDEERING!



There's no limit, it seems, to what the armies will commandeered. This outfit appropriated a baby carriage—the only vehicle handy—when the barrel of wine he was taking to his comrades in the trenches became too heavy.

## Branch Trains on New Schedule

A change in the schedule of the branch line trains will go into effect Monday morning. This is following the rule in vogue for several years past—that of an earlier start and earlier arrival than the schedule in effect for the winter months. Beginning Monday, March 3, the schedule will be:

Outbound—Leave La Grande at 8 a. m., arriving at Joseph at 12:10 p. m.  
Returning—Leave Joseph, 1:30 p. m., arriving at La Grande, 5:30 p. m.

## "MURDER IN COLD BLOOD"

### This Is Verdict of Coroner's Jury at Long Creek.

LONG CREEK, March 1.—"Murder in cold blood," was the verdict of the coroner's jury impaneled in the inquest held here Friday to investigate the death of E. E. McCue who was shot by Frederick, better known as "Fritz," Rader, Wednesday, February 20.

According to the testimony given at the inquest Rader and McCue had had a misunderstanding over some land, but no real trouble until McCue returned from Silver valley two weeks ago.

They met at the old Johnson cabin on Wednesday and the two started to quarrel. Frank Hale, who was present, fearing that there would be trouble left the cabin, but had only a short distance when he heard some one calling for help. Returning to the cabin he found Rader and McCue struggling on the floor. Rader had called for help.

Hale then separated the two men and was dragging Rader from the house when he drew a revolver and fired five shots at McCue under Hale's arm. All five shots took effect.

Hale remained with McCue while Rader rode to the nearest ranch to summon a physician.

McCue was operated upon, but as the physician was obliged to hurry, he had not sufficient chloroform, the stitches pulled out.

McCue remained conscious until the end and was able to talk until a few minutes before his death. He dictated his testimony as to the shooting and signed it before he died.

A. Durnell and family left last night for Seattle where he has accepted a position with the Sound Produce Co.

## Full Uniforms for Home Guards

Quartermaster Nolan Skiff has ordered through the N. K. West Company of La Grande, 100 full uniforms for the Home Guard. With the arrival of these uniforms Union County will have one of the best equipped and officered home guards in the State.

### MAN POWER IS LIMITED

### British Speaker Is Optimistic Over Western Drive.

NEW YORK, March 1.—Sir John Fraser, chairman of the British lecture committee, in an address here denies the report that Great Britain can raise an additional army of two million men. He says they cannot put more than three-quarters of a million more in the field. He expressed the utmost confidence that the German west offensive will be most singularly repulsed.

### Judge Morris Critically Ill.

SEATTLE, March 1.—Supreme Court Judge George Morris, who is critically ill, has been rushed from Olympia to be operated on this morning for what is believed to be intestinal cancer.

### Kaiser Convoles Crowned Council.

WASHINGTON, March 1.—The Kaiser has convoked a crowned council representing all the reigning families to assemble at the great headquarters, it is officially learned.

## PREPARING FOR THE BIG LOAN DRIVE

Local committees of the Union County Advisory War Board are working many weary hours bringing the coming Liberty Loan drive to a complete and detailed arrangement before the hour of the drive comes. Collectively and individually the precinct committees will ferret out the precinct quota strictly on a basis of assessed valuation and pay roll. Isolated cases where such a method of arriving at the amount each person in the county should give would not apply will be taken up by the local committee in that district, but on the whole that is the manner of determining the precinct quota, and, to carry the plan further, is to be the manner of arriving at what each individual should give. Realizing that it will be vastly harder to raise the quota for the county this time, due to numerous conspicuous reasons, the committees are preparing the way thoroughly for a fine-tooth combing of the furthest recesses of the county to get every resident on the list. Each taxpayer and each person on a payroll is being card indexed by the committees which in the aggregate number considerably over 125 and represented the lines of industry everywhere.

The assessment and payroll basis is rapidly becoming the favorite means for establishing precinct and county quotas everywhere in the State, and is held up by the working committees as the most equitable and fair arrangement that has yet been offered anywhere.

Almost daily conferences and much burning of midnight oil is the general rule of these committees in the various precincts which jointly constitute the Union County Advisory War Board, which is to direct the canvass at the coming drive.

### PARIS REPORTS FIGHTING

### Violent Hand to Hand Encounters Follow Artillerying.

PARIS, March 1.—Sharp fighting is in progress at several points, including violent hand to hand encounters following artillerying east of Chavignon. The enemy, after fierce artillerying attacked at that place but were repelled with heavy losses. There is violent artillerying at Croanne, Rhelms, Champagne, and in the Argonne and Woivre districts.

### NEW LUMBER MOVE

### Senate Committee Recommends Entire Production Controlled.

WASHINGTON, March 1.—The Senate military committee has reported favorably a bill putting all the nation's lumber production in the hands of President Wilson.

The appropriations committee has reported the executive and judicial appropriations bill to the House. The bill carries total appropriations of seventy millions.

### RICE FLOUR AS SUBSTITUTE

WASHINGTON, March 1.—Food Administrator Hoover has explained that bakers may be compelled to use rice flour as a wheat substitute all this month. The difficulty in procuring other substitutes has caused the extension of the time till March 30.

Near-beer makers have been limited to a 70 percent of the grain or other foodstuffs they used last year, the same as the brewers.

## BIG CLASH IS EXPECTED BETWEEN HUNS AND RUSSIANS

PETROGRAD, March 1.—The enemy has thrown large forces against the Orsha front, 300 miles South of Petrograd. Thousands of armed workmen have been rushing there from Moscow and have thrown up trenches behind Orsha and a big battle is expected. According to a Bolshevik statement made last night the German offensive has been stopped, owing to the resistance of the Russian revolutionists. Soviets in the larger cities are demanding a holy war against Germany, and are advocating the arming of the entire Russian population.