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With

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LA GRANDE, OREGON

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The Observer

An Independent Newspaper

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Entered at the Postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, as Second-class Matter.

THE HINDENBURG LINE.

From the indications of the reports received today there is unquestionably a general retreat of the German armies and "saltpetre you'll save them" now from a withdrawal to that supposedly impregnable line established by Hindenburg and even beyond that. In brief terms the Hun is now on the run, and he will find no permanent stopping place from now on.

In regard to the Hindenburg line, a little of the past history of German movements may be introduced as showing the dire straits in which the German hordes—and the term hordes will soon be doing them too much credit—are now placed.

The German preparation for a renewal of the Somme battle in 1917 was a "strategic retreat" to the "Hindenburg line," a new and carefully prepared line of defense which had supposedly been rendered impregnable. The line is assumed to have been through Laon, La Fere, St. Quentin, Cambrai and Lille, joining the old line at Vimy Ridge, north of Arras. The retreat on a front extending from Arras to the Aisne was intended to frustrate the allied plans for their spring offensive and was carried out with an orgy of destruction in March 1917.

In this strategic retreat the Germans carried out a plan of destruction that could scarcely be repaid by an indemnity more than Germany could ever raise, and which would call for labor throughout almost a century of time. Schools, churches, municipal buildings, with their irreplaceable records, historical monuments which had survived a score of wars, were all ruthlessly and systematically destroyed; private property was ravaged, wells polluted, cross roads blown up, orchards cut down and mangled, and every conceivable means were employed to make the country desolate.

The retreat that is now in progress will leave the Boche no time to indulge in the pastime of destruction. The necessity for keeping on the move will make him lose sight of the exact location of that supposedly impregnable "line." The retreating army will have something more pressing to think of than that of spoliation. The German vandal has done his last bit of damage to that part of France and of little Belgium as well, which the haughty invader only a few months ago so wantonly ravaged.

ALL LIKE THE PARK.

La Grande never made a better investment than that which provided for the community such an enjoyable place as Riverside park. It is a place of retreat that is popular with all, and not only the citizens of La Grande, but the residents of the county over—and all are welcome—find the park the most suitable and enjoyable gathering place for the summer season. There is not a week passes which does not see the gathering of several assemblages of societies, churches, fraternal organizations, as well as meetings of citizens and neighbors in general.

It is both the recreation grounds and the logical and convenient meeting place for almost all civic and fraternal gatherings. Every year sees some improvement added, which makes it still more attractive and enjoyable.

The park is worth many and many times over the money and labor that has been required to fix it up in its present shape, and all the further money and effort expended will be well repaid in the rest and enjoyment it provides and in its standing welcome as a place of quiet retreat from the heat and burdens of the day.

WAR MAKES LIMITATIONS

It has been asserted in effect that "there is no end" to the making of books. The proposition may still hold good in one way, but there will be some limitations placed on the size of books and the quantity and quality of paper used, according to recommendations sent out by the war industries board, and just received at the Observer office. In certain classes of book-making the object is to reduce by about 25 per cent the amount of paper that would be used under normal conditions.

It is expected that a cut of at least one-fourth will also be made in general publishing, which, of course, includes the newspapers. Like the limitations placed on

certain classes of food, of which wheat flour and sugar are the most conspicuous examples the limitation on the use of paper is a war measure and is to be respected until such time as the allied armies make their grand entrance into the German capital and put the whole business of war and the rule of ambitious emperors on the black list.

SHERRY'S

"THE GOLDEN GOAL."

In "The Golden Goal" at the Sherry Theater today, John Doran is a tramp of the seas, big framed, handsome, but in every way elemental. By brute force he wins the mastery of the water front. Drifting into a Seaman's Mission he attracts the interest of Beatrice Walton, a beautiful, self-willed society girl, seeking new thrills playing the organ in the mission. She obtains for Doran a job on her father's estate and proceeds to amuse herself, setting him on fire with desire for her and with no intention of paying for such amusement. A situation quickly is created beyond her control. Frightened, she orders him from the place, "a filthy laborer." Doran, duly realizing, swears that some day he will make up the only difference between them—money—and then he will return and win her.

Doran next gets employment in the Talbot shipbuilding yards, where, aided by Laura Brooks, a young stenographer, he is advanced to be foreman of the plant and leader of the union. Beatrice's father heads a group of capitalists who seek to obtain control of the plant, but Talbot refuses to part with any stock and Beatrice is vainly employing her charms on Talbot to win him over.

All this time, Doran views every step upward as bringing him nearer the day when he can be avenged on Beatrice. Newspapers link her name with that of Talbot, which riles hatred for his employer within him. One day, Beatrice and her father visit the shipbuilding yards and again Doran and Beatrice meet and his great progress again excites her interest. Her father, fearing of Doran's influence among the men, induces his daughter to invite him to their home, where, under her spell, he accepts a bribe to call the men out on strike. Talbot's hope being thus to force Talbot to accept his financial aid.

The strike must be called off at midnight or Talbot will be ruined. Doran, influenced by Laura Brooks has agreed to order the men back to work, when Beatrice learns from him to her disappointment, and, rousing his old passion, seeks to hold him part the midnight hour. In a thrilling scene, Doran finally is awakened to her perfidy, his own traitorous leadership of the workmen and the true character of Laura.

Battering his way out of the Walton mansion he reaches the union meeting in time to halt the strike, save Talbot and reclaim himself in the eyes of his men and of Laura.

ARCADE

"THE HOUSE OF SILENCE" TODAY'S FEATURE AT ARCADE

The new paramount photodrama featuring Wallace Reid, "The House of Silence," will be the attraction at the Arcade Theatre today. It is a remarkable picturization of Elvye Barton's novel by Margaret Turnbull and the story has to do with the investigation by a rich clubman of a murder in a mysterious house. With a batpin and purse as his only clues, he begins his work. How he accomplishes his object

Trunks and Suit Cases New Shipment Has Just Arrived

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