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La Grande Evening Observer

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VOLUME XVIII EIGHT PAGES LA GRANDE, OREGON. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1918. EIGHT PAGES NUMBER 71

Commission Orders Health Officer to Close La Grande On Account of Increased Flu

Public Health of Community Believed to Be Best Protected in This Manner; Individual Quarantine Doubtful As to Securing Results.

At its regular meeting last evening the city commission passed a resolution closing all meeting places in La Grande due to the increase in the prevailing epidemic. The public schools were not included, for they will close for the vacation period today. If, after the holiday vacation, the disease is still rampant it is probable the schools will be closed indefinitely.

The resolution passed by the city commission follows: Whereas, The influenza continues to spread in this city causing numerous deaths and many homes to be caring for members of the families who are ill with the disease; therefore be it

Resolved, That the city manager is hereby directed to order the city health officer to close all public meetings, including churches and moving picture houses. Closing order to be in effect from and after Saturday morning, December 21, 1918.

The situation was discussed at length by members of the commission. It had been thought that a closing order would not be needed and that individual quarantine would suffice, but later developments forced the belief that the public health of the community could not be protected without a sweeping closing order which was then put into effect.

RULES ARE ADOPTED

The city board of health of the city of La Grande, Oregon, consisting of City Physician Dr. A. L. Richardson, City Attorney J. D. Slater and Chief of Police L. J. Rayburn, met today at 10 o'clock and perfected a permanent organization by electing Dr. Richardson as chairman and J. D. Slater as secretary.

The following resolution to prevent the spread of influenza and adopting methods of quarantine was adopted: Resolved, That the city board of health requires the confinement of the patient to one apartment or suite of rooms, attendant to use gauze masks under strict sanitary precautions. All utensils used by the patient to be thoroughly disinfected after use. All discharges from nose and throat to be burned. Officers and attendants only shall have access to the sick room. Members of the household and all other persons other than attendants must be excluded from the sick room. Placards must be placed conspicuously at the front and rear entrance, showing the name of the disease in type of approved size. The patient is released from quarantine only upon permission from the health officer in charge.

Resolved, further, that all public and private dances, all public and private gatherings, all public funerals, all picture shows, all places of amusement, all churches, all Sunday schools, all lodges and all over-crowding of stores shall be prohibited. The city health board shall be judges of what constitutes over-crowding of stores.

For the purpose of designating the definition of what constitutes any public or private gathering, be it resolved that any number in excess of ten persons shall be considered a prohibited gathering.

Resolved further, that all hotels, rooming houses and restaurants shall be excepted in their regular course of business.

Resolved, that the provisions of these resolutions shall go into effect at noon Saturday, December 21, 1918.

HEALTH OFFICER RICHARDSON ORDERS QUANTITY OF VACCINE

Dr. A. L. Richardson, city health officer, is preparing for the campaign of fighting influenza and has ordered a large quantity of vaccine from the state board of health. This shipment should be here tomorrow and then the city health officer's offices will be open to the general public from 9 to 12 each day for the purpose of administering the vaccine free to all who will call. It is necessary to call between the hours mentioned in order to secure the service, but there will be no charge made for this work.

The state board of health has satisfied itself that there

(Continued on Page 3)

GERMAN GOVERNMENT RESIGNS AND NOW WANT A PRESIDENT

PARIS, Dec. 20.—The German government, headed by Friedrich Ebert, has resigned as a result of a dispatch received at Zurich from Stuttgart, says the Journal's correspondent there.

Friedrich Ebert, who was named as minister of the interior in the cabinet of Prince Maximilian of Baden, November 3, and became imperial chancellor on November 8, took command of the situation in Berlin following the revolutionary uprising there. On November 13 it was announced that he had become premier and had chosen his cabinet, naming Hugo Haase, Philipp Scheidemann, Wilhelm Dittman, Herr Landsberg and Richard Barth as the secretaries in charge of the departments created by the revolutionary government.

PLAN TO ELECT PRESIDENT COPENHAGEN, Dec. 20.—The German government has decided to convene a conference of representatives of all the states of the former empire on December 29 to elect a president of the German republic, according to a Berlin report.

ERNEST MOENKHUSE KILLED IN ACTION OCTOBER FIFTH

Word has been received that Ernest Moenkhouse, son of Mr. G. W. Moenkhouse, of this city was killed in action October 5. He was a member of Company B, 137th Infantry, 41st Division.

His name appeared in the casualty list during the summer when he was reported to have been wounded. It has been further ascertained that he was also gassed. After recovery at the hospital from the casualties, he was again ready for duty and was killed in action. G. W. Moenkhouse, father of the dead soldier, has been a resident of this locality for many years and after the death of his wife took upon himself the task of rearing the family of sons from their childhood.

The son's patriotic sacrifice elicits the reverential respect and deep grief of all friends of the father and brothers.

Boy Sent to Reform School and Girl Sent to Louise Home by Juvenile Court

As a final climax to the raiding of a robbing house in the downtown district Daniel Little has been ordered to the reform school to remain until he is twenty-one years old and Margaret Faust will go to the Louise Home for correction by the juvenile court. These youngsters were found in the robbing house and evidence against them was of a damaging nature.

TROOPS ATTACK STRIKERS AMSTERDAM, Dec. 20.—(United Press)—Troops attacked strikers during a riot at Rotterdam, dispatches reported today. Details are not given. Rotterdam is in Westphalia, fifty miles north of Cologne.

MULTITUDIN SCHOOL CENSUS PORTLAND, Dec. 20.—In a report to the board of county commissioners by County School Superintendent Anderson it is shown that, according to the census of clerks of school districts, there is an enumeration of 62,025 children over 4 and under 20 years in the county.

COPPER CONTROL ENDS Government Price Fixing to Cease on First of Year

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(United Press)—Government maintenance of copper prices and control of the copper industry will cease on January 1, the war industries board announced today following a meeting of the pricing committee with representatives of the copper industry.

GERMANY WILL HOLD A COUNCIL

WORKMEN AND SOLDIERS FAVOR CONSTITUTIONAL FORM OF GOVERNMENT

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO MEET IN JANUARY

Another Appeal has Been Addressed to the State Department at Washington Which is Believed to Be for Hidden Purpose.

CERLIN, Dec. 20.—(United Press)—The workmen and soldiers' council has decided in favor of a constitutional form of government by a four-fifths majority. They fixed January 19 as the date for the meeting of a national assembly.

Bernstorff will likely become foreign minister in the event that Count Drockdorff, minister to Denmark, declines the post.

New Appeal for Aid. WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(United Press)—Germany has addressed another appeal for American aid to the state department. It is believed here that the message is part of German propaganda designed to stir up false sympathy for the Teutonic nation.

Foch Refuses Admission. COPENHAGEN, Dec. 20.—(United Press)—Marshal Foch has refused permission of the workmen and soldiers' councils delegates from the occupied districts to participate in the imperial conference, declares the Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung.

WANT CONTROL OF PACKERS

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION PRESENTS PLAN.

Federal Ownership Not Desired But Regulation Is Believed Necessary.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Stricter government control of the meat industry, without government acquisition of the packing plants, was advocated Thursday by W. B. Colver, chairman of the federal trade commission, at the opening of hearings before the house interstate commerce committee on the administration bill designed to deal with an alleged monopoly of the industry.

"There is not the slightest reason at present why the industry should not remain in private hands," said Mr. Colver. He added, however, that interlocked with the most industry was ownership of transportation, stockyard, freight house and other facilities, "so that competitors are practically helpless in carrying on the business."

"The packing industry, standing alone," said Mr. Colver, "will proceed to grow great as a necessary and useful industry, which will be fostered for the great public good."

Control Is Prime Need. "There are influences at work that are not to the public interest, but these can be controlled without interference with private business" without hardship to it or its distribution. The commission never suggested that the government take over the packing plants, and the commission does not go so now."

The "Big Five" was named by Mr. Colver as Swift & Co., Armour & Co., the Cudahy Packing Company, Morris & Co., Incorporated.

Mr. Colver reiterated the charges of the commission regarding control, saying that ownership of yards, stockyards, refrigerator cars and other facilities gave the "Big Five" an undue advantage over competition.

WEATHER FORECAST Dec. 20.—Rain or snow.

SERVICE TO BEGIN New York to Coast Points Will Be Inaugurated Soon

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—(United Press)—Preparations are being made to begin in the near future, the steamship service between New York and Pacific coast points, which was abandoned when the United States entered the war.

UNION IS CLOSED

UNION, Dec. 20.—Union has been closed up by the order of the council, but an exception was made as to the public schools which for the present will continue. On Wednesday night the council decided to quarantine all cases of influenza. The council met again last night and decided to close the town.

STAMP SALES \$25,000 SHORT

NOT ALL HAVE REDEEMED THE PLEDGES FOR PURCHASES BEFORE JAN. FIRST.

F. L. Meyers, county chairman for the War Stamp sales, reports that Union county is still \$25,000 short of the assigned quota. This is because not all who made pledges for stamp purchases have redeemed the same.

It is, therefore, urged that all who made pledges for the purchase of the stamps make the purchase of the amount subscribed at once. This is not only the thing to do as a matter of honor, but it is also in the line of a patriotic duty. A War Stamp as far as it goes is as good as a bond, so it is only an investment and not by any means a gift. But few days remain to keep up the standard of Union county, and this is a thing that must be done.

If you have not yet fulfilled your pledge on War Stamp purchases, do so at once.

There Are 66,892 Names on Casualty List Not Yet Printed; Most Are Light

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Casualties of the American expeditionary forces which have not been published but which have been announced officially by General Pershing had been reduced at noon, December 18, to a total of 66,892. These, the war department announced Thursday, were classified as follows: Major casualties, including killed in action, died of wounds, died of disease and died of other causes, 1680; wounded, 64,892; missing and prisoners 350.

A large proportion of the 64,892 names listed as wounded are minor cases, it was said, many patients having long since recovered and returned to duty. Officials explained that total is really less, due to the fact that General Pershing's total included marine casualties of 1282 killed and more than 4000 wounded, which already have been published by the marine corps headquarters here.

LIFT BREWERY BAN

Report of Sanction by Hoover Is Not Confirmed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(United Press)—There is a persistent report about the capital that Hoover had urged the president to lift the ban denying grain to breweries. There is no confirmation of the report.

According to the report, Hoover frankly told Wilson that the necessity for the order no longer exists. Brewing ceased on December 1.

However, it is understood, still insists that food economy must be practiced for a long time, however.

Bone dry senators said they believed the order is as necessary now as when it was issued because the actual cessation of hostilities has caused little change in the situation.

SCANDAL IN HOG ISLAND SHIP YARDS

GROSS MISMANAGEMENT AND EXTRAVAGANCE IN THE CONDUCT OF AFFAIRS

FINDINGS MADE BY DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Officials of Corporation Failed to Satisfy Investigators Why \$61,000,000 Had Been Expended on an Estimated Cost of \$21,000,000

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(United Press)—Gross mismanagement and extravagance permeated affairs of the American International Corporation in building the great Hog Island shipyards at Philadelphia, according to the findings of the department of justice. The investigation has just been made public. While no criminal responsibility has been fixed recommendations are made for an examination into the corporation's expenditures.

Officials of the corporation failed to satisfy the investigators as to why the yards cost \$61,000,000, when the first estimate was \$21,000,000.

TO PROSECUTE GUILTY

Austria Proposes Punishment for Those Responsible for War.

VIENNA, Dec. 20.—(United Press)—Austrian officials who shared in the responsibility for starting the war may be punished. A bill introduced in the chamber of deputies provides for an investigation and prosecution of army leaders and their subordinates.

WILL VISIT ENGLAND. LONDON, Dec. 20.—(United Press)—The Pall Mall Gazette has announced definitely that President Wilson will arrive here on December 26.

CAUTION IS ADVISED

Sinister Motive Seen in Sending an Army to Russia.

(By J. W. T. Mason, Special Staff Representative United Press.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—(United Press)—Influences are being exerted on the allied nations to send a strong army to Russia to overcome the Bolsheviks and establish a more moderate form of government at Petrograd.

Intervention in the internal affairs of Russia would be primarily for the purpose of safeguarding funds of investors in Russian securities. The United States has consistently refused to permit European financiers to collect debts in South America by warships. If a reversal of this policy were made in the case of Russia, it is highly probable that the Russians would be driven to an eventual alliance with Germany.

Russia cannot be considered except at a great cost. The allies and America might effect the overthrow of Lenin and Trotsky, but not of Russia, and instead of being crushed, it would be filled with a vengeful desire against the western democracies that sooner or later would lead to new conflicts.

State Board of Health Rigid Rules to Follow

The state board of health of Oregon has issued the following health rules, which were received today by La Grande physicians:

1. At its annual meeting Saturday, December 14, 1918, the state board of health placed influenza on the modified quarantine list under section 7 of its rules and regulations.
2. This requires the confinement of the patient to one apartment or suite of rooms, attendant to use gauze masks under strict sanitary precautions. All utensils used by patient to be thoroughly disinfected after use. All discharges from nose and throat to be burned. Officers and attendants only may have access to the sick room. Placards must be placed conspicuously at the front and rear entrance showing the name of the disease in type of approved size. The patient is released from quarantine only upon permission from the health officer in charge.
3. The use of the vaccine issued by the state laboratory is urged by the board since reports show it to be valuable not only in cutting down the incidence of influenza, but preventing in most cases the grave complications. As the period of immunity is not known a re-vaccination is advised in from two to four weeks. The laboratory is prepared to supply this vaccine through your office. Kindly make requests as early as possible and supply the physicians in your district upon demand. It is suggested that the vaccine be kept in a cool place and that it be not used after ten days.
4. Kindly notify the physicians of your district of the above measures and please impress upon them the necessity of returning the vaccine bottles at once as we are in great need of them. Since we supply the vaccine without charge the physician should be sufficiently appreciative to return the bottles promptly.

Very truly yours,
A. C. SIBLEY,
State Health Officer.