An Independent Newspaper Prints the News the Day It Happens.

La Grande Evening Observer

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Phone The Observer the News and Your Want Ads. Main 27.

VOLUME XVIII — EIGHT PAGES — LA GRANDE, OREGON, FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 1919 — EIGHT PAGES — NUMBER 132

Signing of Treaty May Not Give World Peace

PYROMANIACS IS TITLE GIVEN ALL

PROMINENT FIRE CHIEF CALLS FOR EFFORT AGAINST WASTE.

Educational Campaign Nation-Wide Is Called For to Bring the Public to Senses.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

KANSAS CITY, June 27.—The majority of American people, unconsciously, are pyromaniacs, according to Jay Stevens, manager of the Fire Prevention Bureau of the Pacific Coast, of San Francisco, in an address here today before the convention of the International Association of Fire Engineers. Wastage and loss to the nation is increasing instead of diminishing, he said.

"I have arrived at the conclusion that the great majority of the American people are, to a degree at least, affected with pyromania. Not intentionally so, not consciously so, not to the degree that would cause them to deliberately kindle a fire, but enough that they really enjoy witnessing the destruction of the other fellow's property.

"By observing the attitude of a crowd at a large fire where no human life seems endangered I have noted a lack of seriousness, but rather the same spirit as that displayed by a a theatre audience—they are being amused, all unmindful of the fact that this amusement is costing the American people annually thousands of human lives and millions of dollars in property loss."

He called attention to the fact that motion picture producers recognized this state of mind and satisfied the demand for this type of excitement in their scenarios, which he declared was injurious psychologically to adults as well as children.

"This craving for excitement afflicting the minds of the American people must so far as fires are concerned be overcome and in its place injected a sincere desire to stamp out the unnecessary waste. This can only be accomplished by a movement in line with one of the big war drives.

"This drive would be in the nature of an educational campaign emphasizing the need for proper legislation, better fire protection and building construction, and better housekeeping methods for the purpose of creating an aggressively favorable sentiment for without that little can be done."

An educational campaign he conducted in Portland, Oregon, along general fire prevention lines, he said, resulted in the fire waste of that city being reduced from $5.78 per capita with 1960 alarms of fire in 1914, to 80 cents per capita with 734 alarms of fire in 1917.

"No small part in the campaign was that performed by the women and children, every home and every school being visited by the firemen and the occupants enlisted and assigned some duty to perform, making them a part of the movement.

"Our Portland success was for two reasons; first, it had the endorsement and personal interest of the fire chief and the entire department; secondly, those connected with the campaign gave that most necessary element, work, and hard work at that, work that eventually reached every individual in the city.

"Favorable public sentiment has a desirable effect upon the political angle of the work, and is extremely important. I am of the opinion that more fires are caused by politics, that is the effect of political influence on fire prevention activities, than all other causes combined. The district attorney of Portland, Oregon, in a recent public address in San Francisco stated that one of the big benefits of the Portland fire prevention campaign was that the politician found one of his greatest assets to be preaching fire prevention because of its popularity with the public."

Mr. Stevens closed with an appeal for a movement of a national character which would seek the cooperation of all fire chiefs and municipalities for the prevention of waste by fire. He further urged that prominent national organizations equipped with necessary machinery for furthering the work, such as the National Board of Fire Underwriters, join in carrying on the plans.

Vertex Refraction Case Received By Peare to Complete Equipment

Keeping up to the moment with all the late equipment for his optical repartment, William Peare, of J. H. Peare & Son, received today what is known as the Vertex Optical Case. It is the last word in equipment to test the eye and leaves no doubt as to results. Fitted with lenses of all vision and an indicator that is worked down in perfection to the fourteenth part of a spider's eyebrow, Mr. Peare announces his satisfaction over the new layout.

"And the best of all it is American made," said Billy Peare, "heretofore it was thought optical goods had to come from Germany, but the late war put our experts and scientists to work with a will and the results they have achieved far outdistance anything the Germans ever thought of".

OFFICIALS NAMED FOR THE BIG FIGHT

OLLIE PECORD, PROMINENT IN FIGHT CIRCLES, TO REFEREE.

Tex Rickard and Drexel Biddle Will Act As Judges of Big Go at Toledo, July 4.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

TOLEDO, O., June 27.—It is officially announced that Ollie Pecord, referee of the Toledo Boxing commission, will be referee in the Willard-Dempsey fight on July 4.

Tex Rickard and Drexel Biddle will act as judges, and W. Warren Barbour, of New York, will be timekeeper

FLOYD M'KENNON SELLS BIG FARM

HENRY NURREY, OF LA GRANDE, IS NEW OWNER.

$100,000 Is Price Received By Mr. McKennon For 600 Acres, Stock and Other Equipment.

One of the most important transactions in real estate to take place in this community for some time was the sale yesterday by Floyd McKennon of his 600-acre ranch on the Sandridge to Henry Nurrey, of La Grande. The deal includes the entire equipment and the fine herd of cattle Mr. McKennon has started, with the farm. The price paid is $100,000. About half the total acreage of the ranch is under crop and Mr. Nurrey, taking possession immediately, will take the crop off.

Mr. McKennon has been farming in this district for a number of years and has been one of the most successful young ranchers in the valley. He has made no plans to go into the agricultural or the stock raising game again immediately, but he expects to continue his residence in this part of the state.

RAISE REFUSED, LABORERS QUIT

STRIKERS TRY TO TIE UP WORK ON GARAGE

Demand For Increase From 50 Cents To 75 Cents Made—Offer of 60 Cents Refused

Frank Hilton had to throw his staff of [illegible] into the breach this morning and fill the places of some fifteen men who walked out on Doane Booth, the contractor who is erecting Mr. Hilton's new garage, when they refused a raise of 25 cents an hour in their pay. The men had been working two shifts and when the night shift quit this morning the [illegible]

(Continued from Page 4)

No Assurance That German Nation Will Ratify the Peace Terms Which German Representatives May Sign—Gloomy Outlook From Sources of European Information.

The Associated Press learns today that Dr. Harrimann Mueller, German foreign minister, and Dr. Johannes Bell, Colonial minister, are on their way from Berlin to Versailles to sign the peace treaty, having passed through Cologne this morning.

Arrangements are being made for the signing of the treaty at 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

Notwithstanding the signing of the treaty tomorrow afternoon, Paris reports intimate there is a feeling among the Allies that the event may not bring about the closing of the tense situation between Allies and the Germans.

There is a bad impression as to the stability of the present German government, and this has been created in Paris because of the vexatious delays. More delays are feared before the peace treaty is ratified by the Germans.

From every source the information comes that the internal situation in Germany is not only very serious but that it is becoming worse, and the whole situation is looked upon as serious.

SITUATION GROWS WORSE.

BERNE, Switzerland, June 27.—The general situation in Germany is becoming steadily more serious, according to the latest dispatches. The railroad strike has extended about all over the country. The Spartacans believe their hour has come, and some reports state that famine is imminent.

TROOPS ENTER HAMBURG.

BERLIN, June 27.—Government troops that were ordered to Hamburg to suppress disorders there, reached the suburbs of that city this morning. The troops ordered immediate cessation of hostilities, release of all prisoners and the delivery of all weapons and firearms.

WILL NOT ABIDE BY TREATY.

BERLIN, June 27.—General Hoffman, army commander in the eastern district, was dismissed from the service for declaring he would defend his district to the last man in defiance of the government orders, and never recognize the peace treaty.

MOONEY SUPPORT TO BE REPORTED

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

WASHINGTON, June 27.—Secretary Wilson asked in a resolution adopted by the House of Representatives today, to report all activities of officials and employes of the labor department in connection with the case of Thomas J. Mooney, who was convicted in California in connection with the preparedness day bomb explosion.

CHARLIE MAYS PUTS IT OVER

North Powder has raised the Boy Scouts campaign allotment and Charlie Mays is the chap who had it in charge. Nothing that Charlie ever undertook has fallen down.

JOHN L. DOANE, SURVIVOR OF THE TUSCANIA, HERE

John L. Doane, just out of the A. E. F., arrived in La Grande yesterday and is visiting his brother, Earl Doane. John L. enlisted at Vancouver, Washington, and spent 17 months in France. His interesting experiences started before he was across the Atlantic, for he was among the survivors of the sinking of the transport Tuscania. He will remain in La Grande, having taken a position with his brother at the Club cigar store.

CAPT SHERWOOD WILLIAMS ARRIVED HOME TODAY

Capt. Sherwood Williams arrived home in La Grande this morning, following the termination of a period of 15 months' service [illegible] in France. Capt. Williams is looking fine and is glad to see old friends again. He is enjoying a visit with his wife and family before making any definite plans for his immediate future, but friends here hope he will decide to remain among them.

IRISHMEN OFFER ENGLAND TERMS

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

LONDON, June 27.—Establishment of self-government in Ireland within the British Empire is proposed today in a manifesto issued by "Irish Dominion League," and signed by Sir Horace Plunkett and other prominent Irishmen.

SOLDIERS FOUND WILLING TO AID

SUCCESS OF MILITARY SECTION OF PARADE ASSURED

Photographs of Soldiers Will Be Taken for Preservation, As This Will Be Last Chance

There is a general response of willingness to help the La Grande Fourth of July celebration on the part of returned service men. Preparations for a big military feature in the victory celebration are going along nicely, and as it becomes known that the parade is a vehicle for Union county to express its appreciation of service men's efforts to win the war and at the same time be a reception for them, the men themselves are showing a splendid disposition to cooperate with the public, and will be on hand in large numbers to help make the patriotic celebration a huge success, and at the same time give the people of Union county a chance to express [illegible]

Arrangements are being made to have a panoramic photograph taken of all the soldiers and sailors who [illegible]

(Continued on page Five)

Elks Have a Big Time and Put Through Large Class of New Applicants

Last night La Grande Lodge No. 433 broke a record for initiations and sent through 38 applicants for the horns. The lodge convened until a late hour and the joy and happiness of Elkdom was evidenced by the smiling faces today of those who had had the horns attached. Some reference was made to "Where the River Shannon Flows" and a few other things that only Elks of good standing seem to know anything about.

STOLEN GOODS FOUND.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

PORTLAND, June 27.—Securities valued at $30,000, stolen last Saturday night from a vault in the offices of the Hammond Lumber Company, were found today in a vacant adjoining room of the same building.

CROWN PRINCE IS AT HOME.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

THE HAGUE, June 27.—Frederick William Hohenzollern, former German Crown Prince, whose escape from Holland to Germany has been reported, was still at his residence on the Island of Wierengen this morning, according to official announcement.

LABOR PROTESTS RUSSIAN COURSE

DEMONSTRATION TO BE HELD IN THREE NATIONS.

Arthur Henderson, Labor Leader of England, Makes Announcement at Labor Conference.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

SOUTHPORT, England, June 27.—The British, French and Italian labor representatives have decided to make a general demonstration on July 20 and 21 to protest against allied intervention in Russia, according to an announcement made by Arthur Henderson, British labor leader, at the labor conference here.

MOONEY STRIKE SYMPATHY FAILS

PORTLAND LABOR COUNCIL DEFEATS PROPOSAL.

Street Car Men May Go Out in the Mooney Strike, Which Is Called For Fourth of July.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

PORTLAND, June 27.—The Central Labor Council, by a close vote, defeated the proposal to strike in support of the street car men's union in case it goes out in the Thomas J. Mooney strike called for July 4.

'OLD VAN IS HERE TODAY

Sam VanDersel, better known up and down the coast as Van, Van the advertising man" is in La Grande today in the interest of the International Live Stock Exposition. He has had beautiful engravings made of the new building which is being erected in Portland and is out to convince the people of the merit of such a show on this coast.

Wilson May Send Another Commission To Investigate

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

WASHINGTON, June 27.—President Wilson has advised the United States senate today through the state department, that he was considering sending another commission to Poland to investigate reports of Jewish massacres.

TO REACH PARIS TONIGHT.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

PARIS, June 27.—It is announced semi-officially today that the German peace plenipotentiaries would arrive in Paris at 9 o'clock this evening.

THE WEATHER

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

PORTLAND, June 27.—Indications are that tonight and Saturday will be fair, cooler in eastern part of the state with gentle westerly winds.

AIRSHIP TO BE HERE TUESDAY

LOCKEY-CURREY PLANE WILL REACH CITY IN FORENOON

Flyers Will Be Guests at Tuesday Ad Club Luncheon and Explain Mission

There will be an airship in La Grande next Tuesday. The drone of the motor will be heard about 11 o'clock in the forenoon, for the plane will arrive about that hour from Pendleton.

It is the Lockey-Currey airship which is making a tour of Eastern Oregon cities on the War Stamp campaign and Fred Lockey, who served in the Red Cross in France during the war, will be here to tell the story of the War Savings Stamps and urge continuation of effort in that department.

Mr. Lockey is a fluent talker, a fine fellow and is out working for the good of his country. He leaves Portland in the airship making stops at The Dalles, Wasco, Ione, Pendleton, La Grande and Baker.

The idea of sending the airplane over this territory is one conceived by Mr. Lockey and Fred B. Currey, hence the Observer has christened ship, the "Lockley-Currey Plane."

The plane will be driven by a former army soldier who will explain the machine to those who care to assemble at the landing grounds before he starts with Mr Lockey on his trip east.

Grounds selected for the landing have been chosen and the people living near the court house will have a winged visitor alight in their midst Tuesday. The Observer assures every resident that there will be no cause for alarm when the hum of the motor causes all to rush out of their homes and they witness two big men coming out of the sky. Neither of them will be an angel but they are both mighty fine citizens—the kind that Oregon is proud to have.

Plane is Damaged

Since writing the above advice by wire has been received that the Lockley-Currey plane met with a mishap at Dallas, Oregon yesterday and was badly damaged. Lieutenant Pearson and a passenger by the name of Thomas Skedehly, were neither injured in the fall, but is is not known whether the plane will be able to make the Eastern Oregon trip. It is likely, if this plane fails, the promoters will secure another ship for the occasion, particulars of which will be announced as soon as known.

HANSON TO INCREASE WAGES.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

SEATTLE, June 27.—Mayor Ole Hanson today recommended salary increases for about five thousand city employes of the city of Seattle.

HOUSE BUNCHES PROHIBITION.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

WASHINGTON, June 27.—The house judiciary committee today voted to report out all prohibition enforcement legislation in one general bill, with the war-time enforcement set down as part one.

GRAND RONDE MAN PASSES ON

THOMAS McCONNELL, DIES AT SACRAMENTO.

Was One of La Grande's Builders and Owns Much Property in La Grande.

Sacramento newspapers received today by F. L. Meyers, cashier of the La Grande National Bank, tell of the death of Thomas McConnell, one of the well known pioneers of the Grande Ronde valley and a man who had much to do with the building of La Grande.

The Sacramento newspaper says in part: "Thomas McConnell, one of the last of the pioneers of Sacramento county, passed away at the advanced age of 92 years. He was the founder of McConnell station where he owned considerable property. The aged man came to California as one of the Isthmus of Panama in 1850 and went to Coloma, Eldorado county, where he engaged in the mercantile business with his brother. He also operated a saw mill. He also imported the first Spanish Merino sheep into California in 1860. His wife died four years ago but he leaves four children, George McConnell, Miss Anna McConnell, Mrs. Mary Bostwick and Miss Jennie McConnell."

In the passing of Thomas McConnell the minds of citizens here drift back to the days when he played an active part in the upbuilding of this part of the country.

He was wed to the daughter of Daniel Chaplain, whose possessions in La Grande were many, and they reverted to the daughter when Daniel Chaplain passed on. Many deeds to property in this city bear the inscription, "Chaplain's Addition to the City of La Grande," all of which property was originally among the Chaplain holdings. The McConnell family still own much property in South La Grande.

Mr. McConnell also at one time owned a large farming tract in the valley but this was disposed of some years ago. For many years he made annual visits to this city, and both himself and daughters Miss Jennie have many friends here.

TOWNLEY ABSENT FROM HIS TRIAL

NON-PARTISAN LEAGUE DOES NOT SHOW UP

Charge of Disloyalty is Being Prosecuted Against Organization Leader

JASKSON, Minn., June 27.—Activities of Joseph Gilbert and Irving Freitag, of the national Nonpartisan league, in Jackson county in 1918, were touched upon Wednesday by three witnesses called by the prosecution at the trial of A. C. Townley, president of the league, and Joseph Gilbert, a former league organizer, who are charged with conspiracy to commit disloyalty.

O. C. Thorsen, judge of probate court of Lakefield, and F. E. McKellar, county auditor, testified that Gilbert persisted in making an address at Lakefield January 23, 1918, after the county officials had notified him that Nonpartisan meetings would not be permitted.

O. A. Collen, a farmer living at Heron Lake, testified that he became a member of the league at the solicitation of Freitag and later a certificate of membership and literature bearing the stamped signature of President Townley was sent to him.

Prosecuting Attorney H. E. Nicholas stated in his opening remarks to the jury the state would attempt to show that Townley was connected officially with activities in Jackson county of Freitag and Gilbert. Gilbert also is under indictment on a charge of having made unpatriotic utterances.

McKellar was clerk of the draft board for Jackson county and said the draft board had considerable difficulty in certain sections of the county and testified his principal objections to Nonpartisan league activities early in 1918 "was a disturbing effect at that time upon the community."

Attorney George Hoke of the defense questioned McKellar as to whether opposition to the Nonpartisan league, you got their vote 100 ture.

"If you want to know the political situation which existed in Jackson county, I'll tell you," said McKellar. "If you were for the Nonpartisan league, you got their vote 100 per cent, but if you were an out and out American, you didn't."

Judge Thorsen testified he believed Jackson county farmers who were Nonpartisan members were good citizens.

Townley did not arrive in Jackson Wednesday. His absence was not discussed at the trial. It was said by his associates he is still in North Dakota, where a state-wide referendum vote will be taken Thursday on certain Nonpartisan league measures which were enacted into law by the 1919 North Dakota legislature.

Prosecuting Attorney Nicholas dwelt at length in his opening statement upon the alleged activities of Townley, Gilbert and Irving Freitag, a league organizer, during the early months of the war.

"We intend to show that Mr. Townley's whole attitude was opposition to the war and that the people should not assist in the prosecution of the war," Mr. Nicholas said.

NORTH POWDER DELEGATION SEES WATER ENGINEER

A delegation from North Powder, composed of Fred Phillips, C. C. Correll and H. Blackburn, were in town today conferring with Rhea Luper, state superintendent of water masters regarding the matter of water distribution on the Powder River. Mr. Luper, who is up from Salem to spend some time in this part of the state, has been kept busy during the few days he has been here talking over such matters.