

La Grande Evening Observer

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VOLUME XXIV

LA GRANDE, OREGON.

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1921

NUMBER 187

CANAL AND AUTOS HURT RAILROADS

RAILROAD LABOR FORMALLY ADMITS THAT IT FAILED TO PROVE LETTER AUTHENTIC

LETTER ORDERED TAKEN OUT OF BOARD RECORDS

Julius Kruttschnitt, head of the Southern Pacific, defends freight rates and complains of competition which is favored by the government's subsidy.

CHICAGO, May 12.—Railroad labor has formally admitted before the railroad labor board that it had failed to prove the authenticity of the letter alleged to have been written by a Pennsylvania railroad official ordering the defacement of the labor organization, if necessary, "in obtaining the desired information." The letter was requested withdrawn from the records of the board.

Emphasizes Labor Costs
WASHINGTON, May 12.—Direct examination of Julius Kruttschnitt, chairman of the board of the Southern Pacific, was concluded Wednesday by the senate interstate commerce committee in its railroad investigation. He will, however, be recalled for cross-examination.

Although emphasizing as Tuesday that high labor costs were foremost in the list of handicaps which, he said, were preventing the roads from making adequate returns on investments, or even meeting expenses, the witness complained of competition, "favored by government subsidy," which the transcontinental lines, particularly, were meeting. Constantly increasing Pacific traffic through the Panama canal, "financed by the shipping board out of the United States treasury," was a prime factor, he said, while a second was the use of "automobile trucks on highways maintained by the state and national government which they destroy without making payments."

Justifies High Rates
He denied that the decrease in freight and passenger business was a general condition for which the rate factor was responsible.

"Traffic through the canal has increased 72 per cent this year," he said, "all business being taken from the transcontinental lines. The United States shipping board, with the treasury behind it, is conducting a competition which the privately owned carriers cannot meet. The ships are even taking the Pacific coast citrus fruits."

"Isn't it a fact," Senator Cummings asked, "that up to October, 1920, the transcontinental lines had all the business they could carry?"

"The transcontinental roads, as a general thing, handled their business quite comfortably," Mr. Kruttschnitt replied. "The pinch comes at the present time, when the traffic is low."

Mr. Kruttschnitt said that another example of government subsidy which hurt railroads was furnished by the operation of automobile trucks, which destroyed highways without paying the cost of maintenance.

"You present a rather difficult problem," said Chairman Cummings, "because the public will remember that government gifts have always been made to the steam roads, beginning in the days when their rights of way were donated, so that it is hard to determine where government beneficence about highways should stop."

OVERFLOW OF CREEK IS NOT SERIOUS

Catherine creek is high now and although in several places land that is usually planted will not be planted this year because of the high water-being so late, little damage is likely, according to A. Conley. At present there are only three roads open out of Union going west, the valley road, the foot-hill road, and the road to Cove. The valley road is being graded now and according to motorists coming over last night, a few days this road will probably be in such condition that the foot-hill road will be the most desirable.

According to Conley, the water will probably stay high this year longer than usual, making planting on the lands overflowed impossible.

PORTLAND MARKS
PORTLAND, May 12.—All of the local markets remained steady today.

CHINA SEEKS SUPPORT OF PUBLIC OPINION

NEW YORK, May 12.—China is seeking the support of public opinion in the United States and the British dominion, to prevent the renewal of the Anglo-Japanese treaty, Betram Lenox Simpson, advisor to the President of China and statistician of the Chinese government, declared in a statement today.

HOSPITAL DAY IS CELEBRATED

BIRTHDAY OF FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE IS COMMEMORATED

Open House Is Held at Hospital During the Afternoon. Program Is Arranged for This Evening.

Today is Hospital Day, the birthday of Florence Nightingale, one of the greatest humanitarians that ever lived. It is being celebrated throughout the United States.

Open house was held at the Grande Ronde hospital this afternoon from the hours of one to five, when many people were taken through this institution and shown the general work of a large hospital. Light refreshments were served during the afternoon, and all expressed themselves as very delighted with the work the local hospital is doing.

The day will be fittingly closed with a delightfully arranged program this evening at the L. D. S. Tabernacle. The doors will open at 7:30 o'clock and the program will start promptly at 8 o'clock. A. C. Hampton is chairman, and the public is cordially invited to attend.

GRANGE WILL MAKE EXHIBIT

NATIONAL GRANGE WILL MEET AT PORTLAND

Union County Determined to be Well Represented; Plans to be Made at Next Meeting

Union county is to help demonstrate what can be produced in Oregon in the agricultural display which is to be made in the Auditorium at Portland this fall, during the session of the National Grange.

The majority of the Willamette Valley and Coast counties will have exhibits. Hood River will be there with fruit, Malheur county is to have a ton of corn and a general exhibit.

The complete plans for the Union county exhibit will be made at the next county meeting, but the various subcommittees are of the opinion that it is going to be as good as any of the counties.

The Oregon grange officials are looking for one of the largest attendances in history. A train load has already been promised from the New England states. At the last session of the National Grange held in Boston, 2,838 were given the seventh degree, which is one of the largest classes taking a degree in any fraternal organization.

STOCK SHOW PLANS MADE

MEETING IS HELD LAST EVENING—MANY VISITORS.

La Grande Day Will Be the Second Day of the Show—Excellent Entertainment Provided.

UNION, May 12.—A stock show meeting was held last evening at which time many fine and valuable suggestions were made for making this coming show one of the very best that has ever been given in Union. A large number of visitors from La Grande and other localities of the valley, who are much interested in stock, were present, many of them giving remarks.

The dates of the show are June 8, 9 and 10 and the way the different events are shaping up, the show this year will be the best livestock show ever held in Eastern Oregon. Splendid entertainment has been arranged for.

The second day of the show, June 9, has been designated as the day of the local markets.

ROY GARDNER, MAIL ROBBER, SURROUNDED

GARDNER ESCAPED FROM TRAIN AT PORTLAND YEAR AGO.

Bandit Went to Australia and Recently Returned, When He Offered To Give Himself Up.

NAPA, Calif., May 12.—Roy Gardner, the mail robber who escaped from a train at Portland, Oregon, June 7, 1920, while being taken to McNeill's prison for a twenty-five year term, is surrounded by a posse, in a thickly wooded canyon near here. Following his escape, Gardner went to Australia, and only recently returned here, offering to give himself up. The sheriff refused, in a telephone communication, to grant any concessions and Gardner disappeared, with a posse in pursuit.

MANY CRIMES ARE COMMITTED

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, May 12.—Lydia Meyer, charged with the murder of her fourth husband, Edward F. Meyer, at Twin Falls, Idaho, last September, was arrested in Honolulu today according to a dispatch. Mrs. Meyer married Vincent Southard of the U. S. S. Chicago, last November. Officers are investigating the death by poison of three former husbands and a brother of the first husband. Also the death of an infant child by the first husband. The woman had collected \$9,500 insurance, said the prosecutor.

Bandits Overpower Policeman.

CHICAGO, May 12.—Five bandits today held up a bank messenger and a uniformed policeman who was escorting the messenger. They escaped with \$7,000, after forcing the policeman to walk away a block, threatening to shoot him if he turned around.

Convicts Mutiny.

HUNTSVILLE, Tex., May 12.—Over a score of state convicts, many of them armed, mutinied today, storming the arsenal, shot two guards, and fled.

Killed in Border Fight.

WILLIAMSON, Va., May 12.—One man was killed in a gun battle on the Kentucky border.

Power In Good Shape Say Railroad Officials

"It is a mistake to think the power on the O.W. is not in first-class condition," the remark of a railroad official this morning when asked regarding placing more men at work in the shops. "The fact is," he continued, "the daily repairs on all rolling stock have been kept up in fine shape and the engines are in good trim. All they need in business, if freight traffic opens up this railroad is ready at a moment's notice, for the power is dormant in the yards but in perfect condition."

We have opened the back shops in La Grande and put on some men to do general overhauling but for immediate repair work no more labor is needed. Engines are overhauled at intervals, not because they cannot further function, but to keep them from wearing any more than is possible. We will do some overhauling but what we need is business to enable us to fire up these dormant engines and put them to work."

GOVERNMENT IS ASKED TO TAKE CHARGE

NATIONAL EMERGENCY IS ASKED FOR IF STRIKERS REFUSE TO RETURN TO WORK.

STEAMSHIP OPERATORS ASK FOR ACTION OF PRESIDENT

Steamship West Ivan Departed This Morning From the Portland Dock. After Having Been Outfitted With A Non-Union Crew—Captains Are Charged at Last Minute.

NEW YORK, May 12.—The request that the government take over the manning of the vessels if the strikers refuse to return to work within forty-eight hours, has been made by the Pacific coast steamship operators in a telegram to Secretary of Commerce, Herbert Hoover, it was announced here. The telegram urged that the President be requested to declare that a national emergency existed in the strike.

Steamer Leaves Portland.

PORTLAND, May 12.—The steamer West Ivan departed this morning with Captain G. L. Linnander as master. Linnander was given charge late yesterday when Captain A. W. Wenderland refused to go to sea without a chief engineer. The crew, which was complete with the exception of a chief engineer, was non-union. The customs officials said the vessel would be fined, as is customary when a vessel leaves without a complete crew.

FUNERAL FOR SERVICE MAN

According to word received here the body of Josiah L. Brill, who died in the service, left Hoboken, New Jersey, yesterday evening on its way to La Grande, where funeral services will be held under the auspices of the American Legion.

Brill was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry H. Brill, of this city. The funeral services will probably be conducted jointly by the Salvation Army and Rev. E. J. Huston, of the Methodist church.

Power In Good Shape Say Railroad Officials

"It is a mistake to think the power on the O.W. is not in first-class condition," the remark of a railroad official this morning when asked regarding placing more men at work in the shops. "The fact is," he continued, "the daily repairs on all rolling stock have been kept up in fine shape and the engines are in good trim. All they need in business, if freight traffic opens up this railroad is ready at a moment's notice, for the power is dormant in the yards but in perfect condition."

We have opened the back shops in La Grande and put on some men to do general overhauling but for immediate repair work no more labor is needed. Engines are overhauled at intervals, not because they cannot further function, but to keep them from wearing any more than is possible. We will do some overhauling but what we need is business to enable us to fire up these dormant engines and put them to work."

CLAIM OF CLARA SMITH HAMON IS BEING ADJUSTED

CLAIM OF CLARA SMITH 5. 5. 5. NEGOTIATIONS ASK FOR \$10,000 IN CASH.

Recognition Of Certain Oil Assignments Made By Hamon During Lifetime, Also Demanded.

LOS ANGELES, May 12.—The claim of Clara Smith Hamon against the estate of Jake L. Hamon, well known Oklahoma politician and oil king, of whose alleged murder she was recently cleared in Oklahoma, was being settled today, said her attorney. The negotiations, he said, were proceeding on the basis of the payment of \$10,000 in cash and the recognition by the estate of certain assignments and contracts by which Hamon was declared to have transferred oil rights to Clara Hamon during his lifetime.

BOYS LISTED FOR SWIMMING

SURVEY MADE OF ALL BOYS IN LOCAL SCHOOLS.

Majority of Non-Swimmers Express Desire to Learn to Swim This Summer.

In connection with the plans being made by A. Edwin Pryke, physical director of the Y. M. C. A., for teaching all boys in the community to swim a survey of the swimming ability of all boys in the fifth grade or higher was made this week. According to the figures compiled by Mr. Pryke, out of a total of 267 boys in the three grammar schools, 147 cannot swim. Of this number only sixteen stated that they did not wish to learn to swim, 131 desiring to learn.

According to the plans made by Mr. Pryke all of these boys will receive thorough instruction in swimming. No effort will be made to teach a large number of boys to swim in a few lessons, but small groups will be taught and each boy must be able to swim fifty feet before he receives the credentials showing that he has learned to swim.

Eleven of the non-swimmers can dive but have never learned to swim. Of those boys able to swim now, 102 can swim the sidestroke, sixty-eight the breast stroke, fifty-five the trudgreen and sixty-eight can swim on their backs.

The classes are to be started at an early date. The survey made by Mr. Pryke was made in co-operation with the school authorities.

STEELHEAD SALMON ARE BEING CAUGHT

MINAM, May 12.—Several steelhead salmon, rainbow trout and salmon trout ranging from five to nine pounds have been caught in the Minam and Wallawa rivers here the past week. James Kennedy caught a 29-inch rainbow trout that weighed nine and a half pounds. Several have succeeded in catching the limit.

JUDGE BEN LINDSAY PAYS FINE TO STOP LONG FIGHT

DENVER, May 12.—Judge Ben Lindsay, of the juvenile court, paid his \$300 fine and costs today, ending the court controversy which has been hanging fire for over five years. The case originated over the refusal to divulge information imparted by a boy prisoner to the judge.

LOCAL MEN AT UNION BANQUET

DELEGATION FROM HERE IS ENTERTAINED.

Community Spirit of Union Highly Lauded By Visitors—Stock Show To Be Big One This Year.

Members of the trade extension bureau of the Ad Club and La Grande men interested in the stock show to be held at Union early in June, motored to Union last night and attended a love feast given by the Union commercial club in honor of the La Grande men. The banquet was served in the high school building and the ladies serving the banquet were highly praised by the visitors from this city for the excellent menu they had prepared. Following the banquet a business session of the stock show association was held, which the La Grande men also attended.

One of the features at the banquet that won more than usual praise was Union-made cheese. All of the local men declared that the Union cheese is the equal of cheese made anywhere and they voted unanimously to urge the local grocers to stock the Union cheese.

Mick Levy presided at the meeting and Tony Smith, president of the Union commercial club responded with a welcoming toast on behalf of the people of Union. La Grande speakers called on for remarks during the evening included Bruce Cox, chairman of the trade extension committee of the Ad Club, Charles Harding, H. E. Coolidge, C. B. Miller, W. H. Vogel, and A. W. Nelson.

The speakers from La Grande highly praised the community spirit displayed by the Union people in the many undertakings of the past twelve months. The new hotel at Union, which was inspected by the visitors later in the evening, was characterized as a monument to Union enterprise. The tourist park was also commented on with more than usual praise. Every facility to be found in metropolitan parks of this kind is found in the camp ground almost in the heart of the city of Union.

At the business session of the stock show a large amount of routine business was transacted and the visitors from here were convinced that the stock show would be as big or bigger than ever this year.

Among those attending the love feast were Bruce Cox, Charles Harding, A. W. Nelson, H. E. Coolidge, W. H. Talbot, Fred Kiddle, Floyd McKennon, Albert Hunter, Jett Gaskill, Sam Brooks, C. B. Miller, J. E. Reynolds, Tom Johnson, Harry G. Avery, W. R. Ledbetter.

EASTERN OREGON MEET SATURDAY

ARRANGEMENTS PRACTICALLY COMPLETE FOR MEET

Lee Reynolds Will Act as Starter and Referee; Meet Starts at Two O'clock

UNION, May 12.—(Special)—Arrangements are practically completed for the Twenty-first Annual Eastern Oregon Track Meet which is to be held here Saturday, May 14. Thus far, nine schools have said they would participate in the meet, eighty-three entries having been made.

The meet starts promptly at 2 o'clock and will be held on the Stock Show grounds. The arrangements thus far indicate that it will be the very best Eastern Oregon track meet thus far held.

Lee Reynolds, of La Grande, has been selected as referee and starter for the meet.

GEORGE HARVEY IS RECEIVED

LONDON, May 12.—Colonel George Harvey, next American ambassador to England, was received today by King George at Buckingham Palace.

GROOMING HORSES FOR UNION SHOW

SPECIAL PRIZES OFFERED TO HORSE OWNERS THIS YEAR AT UNION SHOW.

MANY FARMERS WITH FINE ANIMALS EXPECT TO SHOW

More Horses Are Being Used This Spring Than For Several Years—Committee Visiting Farms Also Finds That There Are Many Pure-bred Cows and Bulls in These Parts.

Much interest is being shown by farmers of this section of the county in the coming livestock show at Union. Tuesday a party consisting of L. G. Terry, W. H. Ledbetter, Leon Levy, Robert Withycombe and Harry G. Avery visited a number of farms in this section and interviewed the farmers regarding exhibiting stock at the show.

There is much work being done with horses this year than for a number of years past, in large measure to the high price of gasoline and the difficulty of obtaining distillate for tractors. In order to encourage farmers who have good horses and are using them daily now to show their animals, some special prizes have been announced by the stock show association.

Extra Prizes Offered.
A special purse of \$150 has been announced for a six-horse team. This team can be made up of horses from several owners and some fine six-horse teams are expected to be seen when the exhibits in this class are shown. Grade horses will compete for \$300 and those having draft team of 1500 pounds or better driven by a boy eighteen years old or younger have the opportunity of competing for \$100 offered by the association.

Among the places visited Tuesday were the Duncan McDonald place, the Albert Hunter farm, the A. H. Mc Goldrick place, Andrew Blokland's place, and Frank McKennon's place. At the Blokland place, Herefords were looked over, and at the McKennon place the Holsteins were inspected, the others having fine horses.

Hunter Has Nine Horses.
On the Albert Hunter farm there are eight large black horses in one barn and nine head of grey horses are quartered in another barn. These are all fine animals.

On the Mc Goldrick place the largest number of colts of any of the places visited Tuesday were found. Seven mares in one field each have a colt by their side and a number of older colts were seen in another field. Mc Goldrick's horses are Clydesdales and standard bred trotters.

At the Blokland place cows and calves and a herd bull were inspected. Mr. Blokland has four or five cows that would do justice to any stock show and he has a herd bull which he recently acquired and which he considers better than the one he has had in the past. The bull he sold was considered among the finest in the county. His old bull and twenty-five cows were sold to Gus Levy recently.

Among the Hereford exhibits there will probably be one from the Chandler ranch in Baker county. Chandler also has a number of fine grade horses that will probably be exhibited.

Percherons Pull Good.

During the trip through the valley the stockmen came across three four-horse teams drilling on the Woodell place near Imbler. They had not quite finished the day's work but at the rate they were going they expected to make 75 acres that day, from eight in the morning until six in the evening. This is considered unusually good time for this work. The horses on this ranch are pure-bred Percherons.

In the races there will probably be sixty head of running horses this year. A carload is coming down from Yakima and word has been received from Ontario that about twenty head will probably come up from there.

KELLY AND RUTH HIT AGAIN TODAY

NEW YORK, May 12.—George Kelly made his eighth home run here today.

Babe Ruth Ahead.
DETROIT, May 12.—Babe Ruth made his tenth home run hit in the game here today.

VEGETATION FORECAST
Tonight and Friday fair. Warmer in the southern and eastern portions of the state.