

# La Grande Evening Observer

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## Marines Said To Have Accepted Reduction

### CREST OF FLOOD IN WILLAMETTE VALLEY IS BELIEVED TO BE NEAR

#### HIGH WATER SITUATION IS UNCHANGED

CHEERFUL REPORTS COME FROM FLOOD-STRIKEN AREA TODAY.

HEAVY RAINS HAVEN'T AGGRAVATED GREATLY

Water Level at Gauge Above Union Took a Considerable Drop During Night—Drainage of District Would Be An Easy Matter, Says Man Who Made Surveys Several Years Ago.

The water gauge at the E. H. Miles place above Union this morning was down to 4.8, having reached only 5 feet yesterday and, although it rained steadily all night, the cooler weather had the effect of continuing the favorable condition at the time the report was made.

C. J. Black, who has a ranch on the east side of Catherine Creek, reported that he had received word from there that the water level was going down.

Rhea Luper, state drainage engineer, who is in La Grande for several days and who made the surveys for the drainage district several years ago, in discussing the high water situation today, said that he believed that the proposed drainage district could be put through at little more than the damage done by the flood this year.

Mr. Luper said that he believed that by building proper levees along the flood way and keeping the channel clear of trees and brush and other debris, the problem of draining the district and guarding against a recurrence of floods is comparatively simple. "The channel of Catherine creek in the lower end winds around in the shape of a clover leaf in places and is covered with brush which is acting as an impediment to the water. Some of the levees now in use could be used, I believe, in constructing a permanent safeguard."

It would not take a great deal of land to do this work, he said.

Ed Miller, of Union, who has a ranch between Union and Union Junction, was in town this afternoon and said that the water had gotten on some spots on his place but not serious damage was being done there.

W. D. Grandy stated today that there is considerable water on the ground and that although the ground had soaked up about as much as it could stand, the water wasn't rising now. The heavy rains caused the creek level to swell some during the afternoon yesterday, but the change in temperature at night made it go down some again.

#### POST-ELECTION DISORDERS GROW

ROME, May 21.—Three are dead and two dying, and many wounded as the result of a pitched battle between the communists and the extreme nationalists at Chusi, Tuscany, where the post-election disorders continue.

PORTLAND MARKET. PORTLAND, May 21.—All of the local markets were steady today.

#### Art Exhibit Of Schools Show Pupils' Good Work

To the extent that parents take an interest in their children was the attendance yesterday at the public school buildings of adults to view the art exhibits which teachers and pupils have been working on for a long time in order that the general public may have a true conception of what is being done in the schools.

La Grande can take credit for quite a fair percentage of the pupils attending during this afternoon, and the teachers, as well as the pupils, were abundantly pleased to exhibit the work and explain the different courses of training which led up to the exhibit.

#### AMERICAN GOLF TEAM WINS AMATEUR CONTEST

HOY LAKE, England, May 21.—The American golf team which is here to contest the British amateur championship, today made a clean sweep in the four-somes arranged as part of the preliminary matches with the British players today.

Cyril Tolley, British amateur champion, defeated Charles W. (Chick) Evans, American amateur champion, in their individual match this afternoon.

#### REV. HUSTON TO GIVE ADDRESS

WALLOWA, May 21.—The Wallowa County Fire Patrol Association held a directors' meeting last Saturday with George E. Hayden, W. C. Jackson, H. McKinnis and J. H. Minnaugh present. The assessments for the present year were placed at two cents per acre for timber and one cent per acre for cut-over land, which is one half cent less than last year. Wallowa county has been very fortunate in having very few fires last season, having very efficient fire wardens, and hence the finances of the association are in good condition.

Rev. E. J. Huston, of La Grande, will address the members of the commencement class on Thursday, May 26. Those graduating are: Helen F. Brown, Wilma E. Bright, Little F. Finley, Halbert E. Hall, Beula E. Keeler, Ronald B. McKinnis, Margaret G. McClaran, Thomas T. Mackenzie and LeOra Fae Thompson.

Donald McDaniel returned Sunday from Baker county, where he located a 640-acre homestead on Burnt river. He will return in a week or two to erect a house and establish his residence on his new holdings.

Alex Cameron celebrated his 89th birthday Sunday. Mr. Cameron is one of the pioneers of Walla Walla valley and Wallowa county. His two daughters, Mrs. Hector McDaniel and Mrs. C. E. Hood and son, George Cameron, now reside in Wallowa, and Mr. Cameron makes his home here to be with his children.

George R. Flannary died Thursday night, May 12, of typhoid fever and pneumonia. He has lived in Wallowa county the past 23 years and leaves a widow, six children, three brothers and two sisters to mourn his loss. Funeral services were held Friday.

#### DANIEL COLL PASSES AWAY AT HOSPITAL

Daniel Coll, for some time employed on the bridge gang of the O.W., died yesterday. Mr. Coll was a widower and is survived by a daughter in Los Angeles. He was 52 years of age at the time of his death.

The body will be shipped to Los Angeles. He was 52 years of age at the time of his death.

#### CHIEF JUSTICE WHITE IS LAID TO REST TODAY

WASHINGTON, May 21.—With a simple but impressive service, Chief Justice Edward White was buried today.

#### WASHINGTON, May 21.—Possibility of benefits to the country from the increased federal aid for reclamation was presented to the senate committee by the governors of the western states.

#### WILLAMETTE MAY SOON BE STATIONARY

FLOOD IS CAUSED BY THE BACKWATER FROM THE RISING COLUMBIA RIVER.

#### RIVER FALLS A LITTLE AT LEWISTON, IDAHO

Forecaster Wells of the Weather Bureau Says Further Rise Will Result If the Heavy Snows in the Mountains Continue Melting—Wallowa County Streams High.

PORTLAND, May 21.—The possibility that the crest of the flood is near is indicated by the weather bureau. Prediction that the Willamette, which is flooded by the backwater from the Columbia, will be nearly stationary Tuesday following the predicted stage here of 21.1 feet on Monday. The Willamette today is 19.3, a rise of 1.1 feet from yesterday. The rivers have continued rising, except at Lewiston, 18.5 feet; at Umatilla, 21.1 feet was reported. At Wenatchee 32 feet was reported, a rise of 1.4 feet; at Lewiston, 18.5 feet; at Umatilla, 21.1 feet, a rise of 1.2 feet, and at the Dalles, 34.1 feet, a rise of 1.7 feet.

Forecaster Wells said that while the river will be nearly stationary on Tuesday, a further rise may result if the heavy snow in the mountains continues melting.

Wallowa Stream Raging. WALLOWA, May 21.—Bear creek is on the rampage now. The water is higher than it has been any time this spring and is still rising. The warm rains are melting the snow in the high mountains very fast the past week.

#### BANDITS TRY FREIGHT TRAINS

BUFFALO, N. Y., May 21.—Twenty masked men held up the New York Central freight train near Toronto, Canada, early today, covering the crew and railroad detectives with weapons, while silks, shoes, clothing, automobile tires, and other goods worth \$70,000 were loaded onto six motor trucks. The bandits headed for Buffalo with the loot.

#### LONE BANDIT RIPS OPEN 51 MAIL SACKS

SAN FRANCISCO, May 21.—The description of the robber who last night ripped open fifty-one sacks after holding up a mail clerk on the Southern Pacific train thirty miles northeast of here, caused the officers today to send circulars asking the arrest of Roy Gardner, who escaped at Portland a year ago, while en route to McNeil's Island, to serve a sentence for a \$87,000 mail robbery near San Diego.

#### ENGINEERS ARE AGAINST CUTS

A letter was received this week from G. M. Smith, written from Cleveland, Ohio, in which he enclosed a clipping taken from the Cleveland Plain Dealer, telling of the triennial convention of Locomotive Engineers. The Plain Dealer has the following to say:

"The triennial convention of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers declared yesterday for no wage reduction and no change in working conditions.

"Delegates to the convention took the resolution prepared for the formal convention expression by executive committees of the brotherhood and with little debate, passed it unanimously in the half-day session yesterday afternoon in the Engineers' auditorium, St. Claire Ave. and Ontario street.

"Resolved: That it is the sense of this grand body, representing all of the locomotive engineers in the United States and Canada, that we are unalterably and positively opposed to any reduction in compensation or any change in working condition, and the grand officers are hereby instructed to use the full force of the organization to put into effect this resolution."

"Leaders of the railway labor organization considered an eight-hour run, twelve and one-half miles being the standard for an hour's compensation, and overtime is figured on this basis. In view of the fact that few engineers confine themselves to a 100-mile run in an actual day overtime is an important consideration.

"The clause in the resolution adopted yesterday giving the brotherhood officers blanket power to put the resolution into effect, was said by leaders last night as an 'emphatic way to state the brotherhood standpoint.' It is not, they assert, a threat or a challenge. At the same time, it is admitted that the statement of the brotherhood standpoint is for him who runs.

"There is no thought in the minds of the brotherhood, the spokesmen for the organization declared last night, of any threat toward the new Republican administration, but they hold the resolution to be an unequivocal answer to the indications on the part of a score of railroads."

#### Laddie Boy on Parade



Laddie Boy, the president's pet Alredale, sat up on a float, with Miss Isabel Randall, and enjoyed the cheers of spectators who watched the annual parade in Washington, conducted by the Humane Society.

#### Sees Great Benefit From Spreading Catherine

Karl J. Stackland, the well known fruit grower and shipper of Cove, came over to La Grande Friday evening with seasoned observations about the flood situation in the middle Grande Ronde valley. He thinks that some land owners upon whom the flood waters advanced, have given out panicky reports as to the extent of the damage so far wrought by the flood. And in the interest of what he considers the best and safest valley on earth—he has seen most of Europe as well as most of the United States—he wants to correct damaging and exaggerated reports.

"Up to last night," said Mr. Stackland, "in the middle Grande Ronde valley, the broad area between Cove and La Grande, in my opinion not to exceed 1500 acres of arable land has been inundated. And of this much is hay and grass land, which is benefited rather than damaged by coming under water. The silt deposited by the flood waters becomes fertilizer, better than any commercial fertilizer. It renews the soil, and since this general inundation has not occurred for about 27 years, it may be that it is due now. In my opinion we are safe in being consoled with the thought that the general prosperity will be enhanced and even the income of the individuals affected by the flood may be increased this very year and for years to come on account of this flood.

"For two days, water in Catherine and Mill creeks, the watercourses that are leaving their banks more than the Grande Ronde river, have stood stationary. Of course, much more silt in these creeks will spread over a great deal more country, as, for several miles near their confluence with the Grande Ronde river, there is a wide area of nearly level country.

"The flood would do much greater damage if it were not for the Grande Ronde Relief Ditch, which, for about 30 years, has relieved the flood pressure along the Grande Ronde river below the mouth of Catherine and Mill creeks, and which, at a time like this, proves its value. So far in this emergency the ditch has relieved the low lands along the Grande Ronde river for ten miles."

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#### WEALTHY WOMAN GOES AS MAID

CHICAGO, May 21.—Kleptomania caused by injuries received from an automobile accident, are held responsible by relatives for the acts of Mrs. Joseph D. Heil, wife of a wealthy broker, who confessed that for over a year she had robbed the homes of wealthy families by posing as a maid. The loot taken by her during this time is said to total over \$25,000.

#### NO BASEBALL TOMORROW

The heavy rains of this week are the cause of the baseball game between Imbler and La Grande, which was scheduled to be played at Imbler tomorrow afternoon being cancelled.

Several other changes in the schedule have also been made. May 29, the local team goes to Baker to play the Baker team. On Monday, May 30, Decoration Day, a special game will be played here with Union. Baker comes here on June 5 and the 12th of June Imbler comes here.

#### HIGH SCHOOL SERMON SUNDAY

Rev. E. J. Huston of the First Methodist Church will preach the benediction sermon to the graduating class of the La Grande high school tomorrow evening at eight o'clock in the high school auditorium.

The invocation will be by Rev. J. A. Smith, of the Presbyterian church. A quartet of high school students will sing several selections, and Rev. A. R. Sifton of the Baptist church will give the scripture reading.

Following Rev. Mr. Huston's sermon the boys' and girls' glee club will join in Mozart's anthem, "Gloria." Benediction by J. L. Cramer, secretary of the Y. M. C. A., will close the services.

#### COMMITTEE TOLD OF BENEFITS FROM RECLAMATION

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Possibility of benefits to the country from the increased federal aid for reclamation was presented to the senate committee by the governors of the western states.

#### ENGINEERS TO TAKE FIFTEEN PER CENT CUT

MODIFICATIONS AS TO WORKING CONDITIONS ARE ALSO SAID TO BE INCLUDED.

#### CONFERENCES ARE HELD WITH REPRESENTATIVES

Radio Operators and Seamen Are Said To Be Favoring the Same Terms; Secretary Davis and the Representatives of the Engineers Are Going to New York.

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Acceptance of a fifteen per cent wage reduction for the marine engineers, but with modifications as to working conditions, is understood to be included in the agreement reached today at the conferences between Secretary Davis and Chairman Benson of the shipping board, and representatives of the marine workers' beneficial association.

Changes in the working conditions and over-time would bring an actual reduction in wages to somewhat less than fifteen per cent. The radio operators and the seamen would agree to the same terms, Secretary of Labor Davis believes. Davis and the representatives of the engineers are going to New York in an effort to have the American steamship owners association agree to the terms.

Strikebreakers Hit. PORTLAND, May 21.—The police were called today when two strikebreakers were hit by rock thrown by strike sympathizers near the Broadway bridge.

#### SCOUTS RECEIVE THEIR MEDALS

At the regular meeting of the local troop of Boy Scouts Thursday evening, the members having passed the tenderfoot and second class scout tests were presented with the medals they earned thereby. Those receiving medals in the first patrol were Walter Dutil, Leo McCorkle and Jack Daniels, for the tenderfoot test, and Ed Fitzgerald for the tenderfoot and second class tests.

In the second patrol Howard Beatty, Sheldon Brownton, Francis Robinson, Wesley Brownton, David McGahey and Mac Byrkit, received the tenderfoot insignia, and Bernard Theison the tenderfoot and second class.

In the third patrol Arthur Larsen, Waymond Scott, John Larson, Robert Smith, Douglas Moe, Sam Cochran, Paul Meyers and Wilson Thurston passed the tenderfoot tests, and in the fourth patrol Fern Kelly, Owen Price, Willie Watkins, Glen Patten and Leland Crossen passed the tenderfoot test.

#### MUST NOW CIVIL S

2.14	2.55
2.15	2.65
2.55	3.19
3.45	3.75
2.90	3.39
3.55	3.95
3.70	4.19
4.50	5.09
1.65	3.15
1.75	3.79
5.5	6.15
5.9	6.59

WASHINGTON, May 21.—The date for the exam will be set by the civil service commission, in due time to allow applicants to file and prepare themselves for the tests insofar as preparations may be required.

This announcement makes it clear that all postmasters now holding office by reason of previous civil service examinations, but whose nomination have not been confirmed, will have to undergo a new test.

The only other examination announced for Oregon is to be held at Creswell.