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ACTIVE WORK IN DRAINAGE IS DESIRED

SAYS EVERY PART OF STATE
HAS LAND SUSCEPTIBLE
TO RECLAMATION

BETWEEN THREE AND FOUR
THOUSAND ACRES POSSIBLE

State Engineer Cupper Says Great-
er Development Than Ordinarily
Dreamed of Is Possible in the
State of Oregon, Through Drain-
age Method.

(Observer Salem Bureau)
SALEM, Or., May 24 (Special).—
Far greater development of Oregon
agricultural lands and greater
strides in reclamation than ordi-
narily are dreamed of are possible
through drainage, declares Percy A.
Cupper, state engineer. Practically
every part of the state, says Mr.
Cupper, has land susceptible to re-
clamation or improvement by drain-
age.

It has been estimated that from
250,000 to 400,000 acres are sus-
ceptible to complete reclamation by
this method, though this does not
cover ultimate possibilities through
drainage and diking.

50 Districts Formed

Since the enactment of the drain-
age district law in 1915 about fifty
drainage and diking districts have
been formed, covering about 150,
000 acres. Mr. Cupper mentions
localities both in the extreme west-
ern and extreme eastern sections
of the state that can be improved
by drainage, and shows that de-
velopment by drainage would be good
business for the state and its peo-
ple.

"One of the most important fea-
tures of Oregon's agricultural de-
velopment is the drainage of marsh
and overflow lands," says Mr. Cup-
per. "It has been estimated that
between 250,000 and 400,000 acres
of land of this class are susceptible
of complete reclamation at a reason-
able cost. This does not meas-
ure the extent of ultimate drainage
and diking in this state. Some of
the land that is now cultivated can
be vastly improved by an adequate
system of controlling the water con-
tent of the soil, while irrigated
lands not infrequently require the
installation of a system of drain-
age to prevent a water-logged con-
dition."

Districts Are Small
"Since the enactment of the
drainage district law in 1915, ap-
proximately fifty drainage districts
and diking districts have been or-
ganized, including approximately
150,000 acres of land. Most of
these districts are comparatively
small and a large number of them
are located along the coast or along
the Columbia river in the vicinity
of Portland, or lie along the river
below."

"Many of these districts involve
the construction of dikes to pre-
vent the overflow of lands during
the high water and the installation
of pumps to relieve the districts
of water which finds its way on to
the lands from the surrounding
hills. We find an entirely new type
of drainage districts in the eastern
part of the state, where the appli-
cation of water for irrigation has
rendered drainage necessary. This
work generally consists of a drain-
age canal or pipe line to carry
water off the land and maintain
the underground water table at the
desired depth below the surface."

Large Areas Available
"This class of development has
hardly begun. There are large
areas in practically every part of
the state which may be reclaimed
by drainage or diking. Perhaps
the most striking instance of this
is the large area immediately be-
low Portland, generally referred to
as Sanvies island, and adjacent
lands. The construction of a num-
ber of diking projects in this vicin-
ity has demonstrated the possi-
bility of reclaiming these lands, but
has also demonstrated the fertility
of the soil and its greatly increas-
ed value after reclaiming. This
large area of fertile land has many
elements to commend its early de-

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Weather
Tonight and Wednesday, fair.

Old Rates of Pay are to be Basis

Railroad Labor Board Has Reached A
Tentative Agreement on Per-
centage to Be Paid.

CHICAGO, May 24.—The rates of
pay and classifications established by
the railroad labor board's wage award
last July, will be used as the basis
of reductions when the board hands
down a new wage decision on June 1.
The board has arrived at a tentative
percentage, which will cut the present
rates ten to fifteen per cent, accord-
ing to the class of employees affected.

RECURRENCE OF TROUBLE IS REPORTED

DEMONSTRATION IS BEGUN IN
PROVINCES.

Twelve Europeans Killed in Riots
at Alexandria; Native Moment
Is Anti-Greek.

NEW YORK, May 24.—A dispatch
from Cairo reports a slight recur-
rence of the trouble at Alexandria,
and that a demonstration has begun
in the provinces.

Over 100 Wounded.
ALEXANDRIA, May 24.—The casu-
alties in the rioting are officially
reported as twelve Europeans and
thirty-six natives killed, and 121 per-
sons wounded. The officials consider
that the native movement is more
anti-Greek than against the Europ-
eans generally.

SNOW MELTS IN MOUNTAINS

WARM WEATHER BRINGS WATER
UP SOME.

No Further Damage Reported From
High Waters, Although Catherine
Creek Is Said To Be Rising.

The water gauge at the E. H. Miles
ranch above Union on Catherine creek
this morning registered 5.5 feet at
6:30. This is the highest it has been
since last Tuesday, when the gauge
registered 5.8 feet. Since the flood
situation became serious on Saturday,
May 14, the daily reading of the gauge
at 6:30 a. m., have been as follows:
Saturday, May 14, 5.4; Sunday, May
15, 5.5; Monday, May 16, 6.2; Tues-
day, May 17, 5.8; Wednesday, May 18,
5.3; Thursday, May 19, 4.4; Friday,
May 20, 4.9; Saturday, May 21, 4.8;
Sunday, May 22, 5.1; Monday, May 23,
5.4; Tuesday, May 24, 5.5.

About ten o'clock this morning, the
reading on the gauge was only 5.2.
At the Harry Schwabke farm it was
stated this morning that the water
appeared to be going down some since
yesterday.

A small amount of water is over
the ties of the Central Railroad of
Oregon on the Cove line near the
Conley ranch. This is not a serious
menace to the operation of the
road, according to reports of the
railroad. Trains are running to
Cove as usual.

ISLAND CITY RESIDENT DIES

MRS. D. J. IRVIN PASSES AWAY
ON SUNDAY.

Funeral Services Will Be Held Tomor-
row at Island City Church
At 2 O'clock.

The funeral of Mrs. D. J. Irvin, who
passed away Sunday at her home in
Island City, will be held tomorrow af-
ternoon at the church in Island City,
at 2 o'clock. Rev. James Alkin Smith,
pastor of the Presbyterian church of
this city will officiate at the services,
and will be assisted by Rev. James
Leitch of the Island City church. In-
terment will be made in the Island City
cemetery.

Mrs. Missouri M. Irvin was born in
Ohio, July 14, 1850. She has been a
resident of the Grande Ronde valley
for the past twenty-three years. At
the time of her death she was aged
70 years, 10 months and 9 days.
She leaves to mourn her loss, be-
sides her husband, three sons and two
daughters, Sam and James Irvin, of
Island City; D. W. Irvin, of Wichita
Falls, Texas; Mrs. W. A. Tuoridge,
of William, Oregon; and Mrs. J. B.
King, of Apache, Okla.

The Junior Red Cross is supporting
children's clinics in all the large cities
of the Northwest.

COOPERATION OF FACTORS ARE NEEDED

PRESIDENT HARDING ADDRESS-
ES NEW YORK COMMERCIAL
CLUB AT CELEBRATION.

AGRICULTURE, BUSINESS,
LABOR, TO WORK TOGETHER

President Promises That Government
Interference With Business Will Be
Reduced to a Minimum, While Gov-
ernment Co-operation Will Be Ex-
tended.

NEW YORK, May 24.—The co-op-
eration of every factor of American
business and industry to put the na-
tion's house in order after the dislo-
cation of war was bespoken by Presi-
dent Harding at a dinner here cele-
brating the 125th anniversary of the
New York Commercial Club.

Agriculture, labor and business
management, he declared, must stand
together in the confident purpose of
reconstruction. He asserted that al-
though the United States did not
want to live in isolation and selfish-
ness, its duties to the world could best
be performed by giving its attention
first to the rehabilitation of its own
resources.

Mr. Harding promised that govern-
ment interference with business would
be reduced to a minimum, while gov-
ernment co-operation with all prop-
erly conducted businesses would be ex-
panded. He declared his purpose to
reverse the tendency in some quarters
"to regard business as dishonest until
it should prove itself honest and to re-
gard bigness in business as a crime."

Emphasizing the fundamental im-
portance of agriculture, he asserted
that the farmer was entitled to "all
the help the government can give him
without injustice to others." For the
wage-earner he asked sufficient com-
pensation for comfort, education and
a margin of savings, while for every
other element in industry he urged a
fair opportunity to do its part in re-
construction.

Mr. Harding also suggested that
the nation's loans to the allies be put
in a more tangible form, that facilities
of exchange be bettered and that all
the financial policies of the recon-
struction period be so formulated as
to protect the gold standard.
"Assuming that these things may be
laid down as fundamentals," he said,
"it is for us all to get back to work.
We must have confidence that things
will come right. We have health with
the greatest problem human-
ity ever confronted in the war.
We will have no problem hereafter
greater or more difficult than that
was. Therefore we are entitled to
every confidence that we will cope
successfully with the problems that
lie ahead."

Red Cross Public Health Nurses are
employed in many counties in the
Northwest, which otherwise would be
without this important service.

"If He's Good"



Pauline Frederick, movie star, says
she'll wed Willard Mack, actor, her
former husband, who, it's said, has
proposed again, if "he will continue
to behave."

ROY GARDNER IS ARRESTED BY OFFICERS

FOUND PLAYING CARDS IN A
SALOON.

Former Mail Robber Who Escaped
Year Ago From Train Near Port-
land, Denies Recent Robbery.

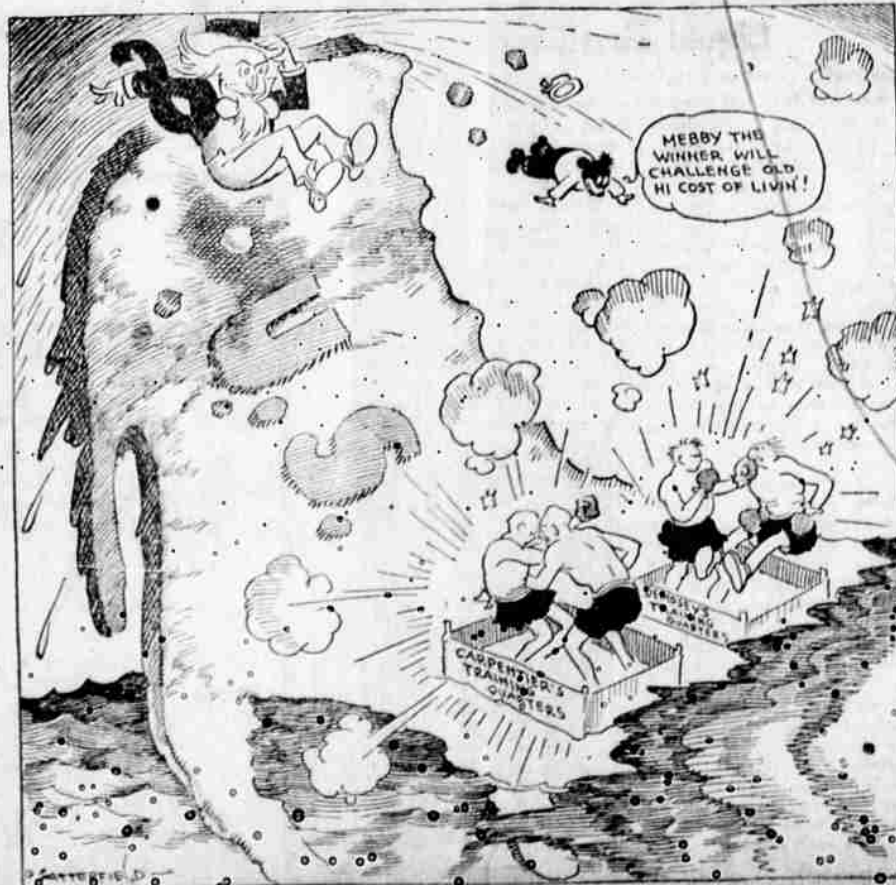
SAN FRANCISCO, May 24.—Roy
Gardner, wanted in connection with
the mail robbery of Friday, was cap-
tured at Roseville last night while
playing cards in a saloon. Two postal
inspectors and two Southern Pacific
officers made the capture. Gardner
escaped from the train near Portland
last June, when he was being taken to
McNeil's Island to serve a prison
sentence for a mail robbery.

When questioned, Gardner denied
any connection with the mail robbery
on Friday, in which fifty-one mail
bags were ripped open and a mail
clerk robbed.

SUM FOR NAVY IS INCREASED

WASHINGTON, May 24.—The sen-
ate voted today \$129,000 for the navy
instead of the \$100,000 that the house
had provided for.

TILTING THE U. S. A.



GERMANY HAS REPLIED TO FRENCH NOTE

OFFICIALS OF FRENCH CIRCLES
ARE NOW OPTIMISTIC CON-
CERNING SILESIA.

REPLY DECLARES GERMANY
HAS BEEN DOING PART

Rigorous Measures Towards Closing
the Frontier Between Germany and
Upper Silesia Were Taken, And
Also to Disband the Volunteer
Corps.

PARIS, May 24.—Germany replied
today to the French communication of
yesterday on the Silesian question,
the reply declaring in effect that Ger-
many had taken most rigorous mea-
sures towards closing its frontier with
Upper Silesia and to oblige the vol-
unteer corps to disband. After the
call of Ambassador Meyers, the
French officials were optimistic re-
garding the Upper Silesian question.

The German government note de-
livered to the French foreign office
says the German government has no
influence on the measures of self pro-
tection taken by the population of
Upper Silesian territory which is un-
der administration by the inter-allied
commission. The note adds that the
commission is solely responsible for
the maintenance of law and order in
Upper Silesia.

Germany Not to Interfere.

The German communication was in
reply to the French note asking Ger-
many to close the frontier between
Germany and the plebiscite territory
as Poland had done. Germany says
it has taken measures to prevent the
entrance of German irregular troops
into the plebiscite area but that it
cannot interfere with the measures
of self protection taken by the popu-
lation, adding that the population
unprotected by the French troops, is
in a state of legitimate self-defense.

Re-establishment of law and order
in Upper Silesia, the note says, is not
a question of the resumption of work.
The insurance has a political char-
acter tending to impose Polish rule
on the Upper Silesian population, and
in violation of the dispositions of the
peace treaty and justice, the com-
munication said.

ROAD BOND BIDS OPENED

Bids for the \$400,000 of road
bonds were opened this morning by
the county court. A meeting is to
be held this afternoon in the direc-
tor's room of the La Grande National
Bank, at which time further consid-
eration of the bids is on the pro-
gram.

Husband Murders Wife to End Pain

Couple Recently Celebrated Golden
Wedding Anniversary; Doctors
Did Not Relieve Suffering.

PORTLAND, May 24.—James T.
Anderson, aged 69, killed his wife by
crushing her skull with an ax as she
slept, early today, because she was
suffering and a physician pronounced
no hope for recovery, according to a
confession Anderson is reported to
have made to District Attorney Evans.
The wife was seventy-one years of
age. The couple recently celebrated
their golden wedding anniversary and
had raised nine children. Anderson
informed his son-in-law by telephone
later, and gave himself up.

INJUSTICE WAS DONE TO TOM MOONEY

DISTRICT ATTORNEY WILL PRE-
SENT NEW EVIDENCE.

Will Show Governor That Prison Sen-
tence of Mooney for Bomb Murder
Was Not Justified.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 24.—"The
district attorney believes that an in-
justice was done in the conviction of
Thomas J. Mooney for a 1916 pre-
paredness day bomb murder, and will
present to the governor evidence sub-
stantiating this belief, that will com-
pel him to act," Milton U'Ren, assist-
ant district attorney, said today in
opposing the motion to release Mooney
under a common law pleading.

U'Ren said that the district attor-
ney was compelled to oppose the pres-
ent action on Mooney's behalf, on the
ground that if the common law writ
was granted, it could be evoked suc-
cessfully by every criminal.

BOY HURT IN HORSE RACE

HORSE GETS TANGLED WITH
AUTOMOBILE

Another Lad Tries to Jump Over
Traffic Dummy and Wrecks
It; Police Issue Warning

Whenever things get dull for
Chief of Police Roy Flexer and his
force, some new form of violation
of the city's laws turns up. Now
it is horse racing by boys. Sunday,
the "dummy" at the intersection of
Elm and Adams was used by a lad,
said to have ridden a gray horse
that looked as though it needed a
rest, in trying to teach his steed
to jump. The attempt was unsuccess-
ful and as a result the "dum-
my" needs repairing.

Saturday night Herbert Lovely
was racing with another lad on
North Fir street. In passing a car
the light from another machine
bumped Lovely's horse and the
horse collided with another ma-
chine. The animal rolled over the
boy several times and he was taken
to his home in an unconscious
condition. At first it was thought
that he was fatally injured but a
careful examination revealed that
he suffered only from severe
bruises.

Flexer announced this morning
that his entire force is now keep-
ing an eye open to stop horse rac-
ing in the city, especially on the
paved streets.

Legion Opposes Memorial Day Baseball Game Here

The American Legion Post No.
43 of La Grande at a meeting last
night went on record as being op-
posed to the ball game, scheduled
by the local team with Union on
Memorial Day. The stand taken
by the Legion is that the day is
one that should be devoted to hon-
oring the boys who have passed
away and that it is not proper to
make a day of jubilation and sport.
Committees were appointed at the
meeting for the purpose of mak-
ing final arrangements for the pro-
per observance of Memorial Day in
connection with the U. S. A. U. and
the W. R. O.

L. H. Boyd, commander of the
Portland Post of the Legion spoke
on the bonus bill. Mr. Boyd point-
ed out that a large number of the
men will avail themselves of the
bonus privilege of the proposed bill
and that this will add \$30,000,000

CEREMONIAL EXCEPTIONAL TO BE PUT ON

LA GRANDE WILL BE MECCA FOR
KNIGHTS OF KHORASSAN
TOMORROW EVENING

VOTARIES AND TYROS ARE
COMING HERE FROM AFAR

Parade Will Start at Elks' Corner at
6 O'clock, and Will Be Followed by
Several Exhibition Features; Ban-
quet at 7 and Ceremonial at 8
P. M.

The Dramatic Order of the Knights
of Khorassan, more commonly called
Dokies, will hold a ceremonial ex-
traordinary in La Grande tomorrow

Order of Events
6 P. M.—Parade forms at Elks' corner. Line of march on Adams Avenue.
Special dancing exhibition by "Unknown" from Pendleton.
Exhibition by Khaled Temple of La Grande.
7—Pythian Sisters will serve tiger's meat and camel's milk.
8 Temple gates are barred and ceremonial begins.

evening. Members and tyros from
all eastern Oregon, including that
section between the west boundaries
of Umatilla county on the west and
the Snake river and Idaho on the
east, will begin pouring into La
Grande tomorrow morning and by six
o'clock tomorrow evening, the stage
will be all set for one of the biggest
lodge ceremonials ever held here.

The new stage settings which have
just been completed by the local
temple, are all in readiness, and will
be used for the first time tomorrow
evening.

Several auto loads of votaries and
tyros are expected to arrive from the
vicinity of Sumpter, Richland and
Eagle Valley tomorrow afternoon.
However, the first delegation to ar-
rive in the city, will be from Pendle-
ton, landing here at 10:55. The even-
ing trains from Walla Walla county
and also from Baker, will bring
other bands of Knights and their
candidates.

Bruce Cox's Heads Parade
The big time will be started off at
6 o'clock, when the parade will form
at the Elks' corner, and headed by
the Brigand band, will parade on
Adams avenue. Each town will be
represented by their patrol and vo-
tary delegations. Bruce Cox of La
Grande, will head the brigades.

Immediately following the parade
a drill and special dancing will be
done by one of the Pendleton dele-
gates, who is coming "incognito" to
the city, but whose fame has spread
far and wide among the Dokies as
a special entertainer. The dancing
will be followed by a special exhibi-
tion by an educated camel of the La
Grande temple.

Following the exhibition, the Py-
thian Sisters will serve copious quan-
tities of tiger meat and camel's milk
at the K. P. Hall, where at 8 o'clock
the gates will be barred and the cer-
emonial itself will begin. All of the
lectures have been especially rehear-
sed and several new features added
to the program. Instead of having
band music during the ceremonial,
an orchestra will play Persian melo-

(Continued on Page Eight.)