# La Grande Evening Observer

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VOLUME XXIV — LA GRANDE, OREGON, SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1921 — NUMBER 355

# PEOPLE ARE ANXIOUS TO HAVE WATER

LARGE MAJORITY INTERVIEWED DECLARE IN FAVOR OF AMENDMENT

## MINAM PROJECT AGAIN BOBS UP

**Observer Survey Continues to Find People Heartily in Favor of First Move Toward Insuring Ample Supply—Opposition to Beaver Creek Heard**

Further extension of the Observer survey of the business and professional circles of La Grande to obtain the concensus of opinion relative to the adoption of the first of several amendments to the city charter coming up for disposition August 9th, reveals almost unanimous demand for water. As noted yesterday the men are not of one accord about where the city shall go after it, but water must be had.

In seeking these interviews one often encounters people who have not gone into the matter sufficiently to form an opinion.

The Minam project and its vast opportunities has sprung up again. Pronounced by some to be the dream of idealists and impractical, the project nevertheless has bobbed up and the Observer representative has encountered it time and again.

Most of these men think of a vast abundance of water slipping uselessly down to the sea, and just across a comparatively small ridge of mountains lies a city thirsting for pure water, and thousands of acres of arid and semi-arid land equally oppressed by drought to harness up the Minam to the needs of man and land on this side entails a tremendous outlay, but, as noted, many a man can't refrain from cogitating about the possibilities.

But the project immediately to the foreground is the Beaver creek proposition, and while the election August 9th does not specify or reject that source, it is generally believed that the consulting engineers will recommend it. Concerning the amendment particularly vital to the water proposition because upon its passage depends any future water bond issues, these interviews have been obtained:

James Garity, proprietor Gar[illegible] blacksmith shop—I am against a[n] unnecessary addition to our tax[es] but we can't do without water. [I] certainly want good water and pl[en]ty of it.

Herman Siegrist, manager N. [illegible] West & Co.—I want water.

O. F. Coolidge, proprietor C[oo]lidge Paint Store—If we hav[e to] have water, and we do, let's [illegible]

Sam Andrews, proprietor [An]drews' Variety—This water s[y]stem will in time pay itself out—th[e] [illegible] a revenue coming in and it i[s not] a dead weight taxation. We [must] have water.

R. W. Leighton, Leighton [illegible]ing Works—I understand the [chem]ical treatment given our prese[nt wa]ter system to kill off the ve[getable] growth in the reservoir eats t[he] steel pipe. Maybe that is wh[at's the] matter with my stomach; [illegible] will transfer some of my [illegible] bills to additional water [illegible]

(Continued on Page [illegible])

## Blood Covered Coat Is Found By Father Of Accused Woman

PORTLAND, July 30.—The finding of a blood-spattered overcoat, the blood-spa[ttered] and the sheet of hunting kn[ife] accusing finger pointing [illegible] the state's star witness, all of [illegible] the state to clear Mrs. Luis [illegible] of the crime of murdering her hu[sband] was none other than J. J. Sw[illegible] of N[illegible]ood, Mo., father of the accused woman.

[illegible] search of weeks, in which [illegible] every foot of ground fo[illegible] the Agee residence and fo[r] every possible clew the ar[tic]le[s] may save his daughter fr[om the] gallows were found by Sw[illegible] in the underbrush of a va[cant lot] at the corner of Wall and L[illegible] streets, on Sunday, July 17, t[he] elderly man yesterday. [Ev]idence had remained in the ha[nds of] the defense [until] that time. Jo[hn] [illegible]llier, chief counsel for Mrs. Agee, filed his action not turn[ing the] [fin]dings over to authorities by [illegible] that Joseph Klecker, the jan[itor] [illegible]c teacher sought under susp[icion] allegati[on] the defense, alre[ady] out on [illegible] that an early trial [as]ked im[media]tely and that a wo[man's] life wa[s at] stake.

## MA[RKET] ROAD W[ORK] IS TO [BE] FINISHED

STAT[E] [illegible]T ROAD FUNDS [MA]DE MONEY

Situ[ation] [Rega]rding General Warrants General Road Warrants Unchanged

A[ll] general warrants and gen[eral] warrants of Union cou[nty are] being cashed by the ban[ks be]cause of the large am[ount of] [su]ch warrants held by [illegible] the market road warrants wi[ll be taken] care of. The market ro[ad fund] receives $30,000 from the [illegible]ar and half of this will be [illegible] few days while the rest [illegible] in December, according [to County] Judge U. G. Couch, [return]ed from Portland this [illegible]

[Work] on the market roads [illegible] stopped, according to [illegible]trations, the money due [the] state being used to carry [illegible]on. The state highway [illegible] will also complete the [illegible] along the state highway [illegible] already been advertised [illegible] along the state highway [illegible] one by the state. Where [illegible] is charged to the county [illegible] the finances the county a[illegible] time as funds from the sale [illegible] or other sources can be [illegible] The cost of the hard sur[facing] will all be met by the state [illegible] roads whose grading the [county] pays for.

[illegible] state bonds sold above par [illegible] highway commission op[illegible] this week, the market for bonds is still in such a con[dition] that the bonds cannot be sold. Arrangements had been made [with] banks of the county for taking the $400,000 issue and [pay] the difference between the [illegible] and par but the necessity [of pay]ing two per cent interest on [the bon]ds added so much to the ex[pense] the banks would be put to in [handlin]g the bonds that they were [unable] to take the bonds. An [agre]ement was made, however, at [the ti]me that it a bid of several per [cent] more could be obtained the [banks] would be in a position to ab[sorb] them. The bid price was 94 [per cent] of par.

[In] case some arrangement can be [mad]e for the sale of the bonds, the banks expect to be able to cash [cou]nty warrants again as the general road bonds now in the hands of banks could then be taken up.

### WEATHER FORECAST

Next week will be generally fair, with a normal temperature.

# BRITAIN AND FRANCE AGAIN GOOD FRIENDS

CONFERENCE HELD BETWEEN PREMIER BRIAND AND THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR

## SUPREME COUNCIL TO ACT AUGUST 4

**Meantime, the Nations' Work Will Progress in Harmony; Controversy Was Started Over the British Note Drafted by Lord Curzon and Endorsed by Imperial Cabinet.**

PARIS, July 30—The relations between France and Great Britain regarding Silesia were much improved today as the result of the conference between Premier Briand and the British Ambassador. It is expected that the Supreme Council will act August 4, and meanwhile the nations' work will progress in harmony.

The controversy between the British and French governments over Silesia had reached an acute stage, the latest British note drafted by Lorn Curzon, the foreign minister, indorsed by the imperial cabinet and handed the French government in Paris yesterday morning, being officially described as a "vigorously worded" document.

The note ascribes the present situation to the presentation of the French note to Germany of July 16, calling the attention of the German government to the still menacing attitude of the German defense troops in Upper Silesia, without previous consultation with France's allies, the first departure from the policy of cooperation hitherto followed.

The note refutes the allegation that Great Britain had set herself against the French and was thereby strengthening the German attitude.

Officials describe the note as of a friendly character in "marked contrast to the attitude displayed in the French note," to which it is a reply. Officials declared that according to the news being received in London there is no danger threatening the French troops in Silesia which renders the sending of reinforcements urgently necessary, as the French have asserted.

The note calls attention to what is described as the "extraordinary action on the part of France" in endeavoring to act independently of the supreme council in insisting upon the immediate dispatch of troops. It points out that this is an impossible basis upon which to pursue any future policy together and that no good purpose would be served by further discussion until there was a clear understanding of France's intentions.

### GENERAL WOOD SILENT.

MANILA, July 30.—General Leonard Wood maintains silence regarding the question of the governor-generalship of the Philippines, for which he is being urged.

### JOHNSTON IS WINNER.

BOSTON, July 30.—William M. Johnston, of San Francisco, defeated R. Norris Williams, of Boston, in the challenge round of the finals for the Longwood cup tennis trophy.

## BETWEEN 450 AND 500 PUBLISHERS WILL ATTEND MEET

HONOLULU, Territory of Hawaii, July 30—Between 450 and 500 publishers, editors and newspaper men from all parts of the world will gather at Honolulu, Territory of Hawaii, better known as the "Crossroads of the Pacific," from October 11 to 25, inclusive, as delegates to the Press Congress of the World, of which Dr. Walter Williams, dean of the School of Journalism of the University of Missouri, is president.

## SENATOR NORRIS IS SERIOUSLY ILL

WASHINGTON, July 30.—The condition of Senator George W. Norris, of Nebraska, was reported less favorable today, than at any time since his collapse on Thursday evening. His friends are very much concerned over his critical condition.

## IRISH PARLIAMENT TO MEET THURSDAY

LONDON, July 30.—A Dublin dispatch to the Westminster Gazette says that it is understood that the Irish parliament will meet next Thursday or Friday.

# STRIKE CALLED OFF BY UNIONS

PORTLAND, July 30.—The sailors, firemen, cooks and steward's unions here have voted to call off the strike which has been on since May 1. The engineers voted to return to work a fortnight ago.

## The Charter Election

**A discussion of the different amendments to be voted on August 9th.**

### Amendment No. 6

(A proposition to change the manner of making assessments for local improvements)

In all improvements made in La Grande since 1915, the buyers of the bonds was made to look for their pay to the particular parcels of property embraced in any improvement district. The result has been, declared City Attorney Slater, that neither the bond buyers nor the contractors will take the bonds. This plan forestalls improvement, it is said. The amendment would still retain the liens on the particular property involved but would make the city stand as guarantor and would make the bonds more readily negotiable.

By this plan the city engineer or recorder would make the preliminary assessments, as it is a technical job, though in the past a committee of the commission itself was charged with the duty, and the task was always left to the regular engineer anyway. The legal advisor of the city deems this a very important measure in that it intends to cure what is now a deterant to ready negotiation of improvement bonds. The text of the amendment is long and lack of space forbids its publication.

# ONE PRISONER IN RUSSIA IS NOW SET FREE

MRS. MARGUERITE HARRISON, NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENT, ARRIVES IN RIGA

## SENATOR FRANCE OF MD. AIDS WOMEN

**Senator France is Surprised at Announcement that Russia Will Release the United States Prisoners if Relief is Afforded Russia; Russia Accepts Proposal**

RIGA, July 30—Mrs. Marguerite Harrison of Baltimore, newspaper correspondent who has been an American prisoner in Russia, has been released by the Soviets through Senator Joseph I. France, of Maryland. Both arrived here today.

Mrs. Harrison was pale and thin, but not in bad condition. Senator France is surprised at the announcement that Russia has agreed to release the American prisoners, saying that it had not been decided that way when he left. The Senator saw Lenine and said that he still favored trade relations with Russia. He would not say more until he had rested, being much fatigued after his journey.

**Will Release Prisoners**

RIGA, July 30—The offer of the Secretary of Commerce, Herbert Hoover, for relief, provided the American prisoners were released, has been accepted, according to dispatches from the Rosta News Agency at Moscow. Quick action is asked.

### WHEAT YIELD 72 BUSHELS

**Wingville Farm in Baker County Has Bumper Crop**

When a field of wheat gets to the point where it will yield 72 bushels to the acre, farmers are inclined to open their eyes and receive the news with a smile, but this is the report coming from the M. H. Lewis farm in the Wingville section. According to this Mr. Lewis has a field of about 20 acres of fall wheat. A field of spring wheat will yield about 30 bushels. Both fields are irrigated. Both the winter and spring grain is from certified Forty-fold seed.

# GERMAN FOREIGN OFFICE HOPEFUL

BERLIN, July 30—The German foreign office has expressed the belief that working basis has been established for the conclusion of the peace treaty between Germany and the United States, on the basis by which the American rights and privileges under the Versailles treaty will be accepted by Germany. The treaty is to be on the principles enunciated by the Porter-Knox resolution.

## Star Train Is Rifled By Four Bandits Today

PITTSBURG, July 30—The Manhattan Limited, Pennsylvania's star train, was held up by four bandits at Casandra, Pa., this morning, and the mail clerk was wounded and a mail car rifled. The robbers escaped. One pouch which contained foreign registered mail was found slit and empty. No estimate of the loot has been made.

### KING DENIES STATEMENT.

**Monarch and Lord Northcliff Both Against Premier.**

LONDON, July 30. England is tremendously stirred by the King's denial through the premier, of the statements credited to him by Lord Northcliffe, which the latter also denies. It is the first time in history that the monarch has taken official notice of a newspaper item.

### FORMER OPINION SUSTAINED.

SALEM, July 30.—Among the decisions of the Supreme Court was the case of R. B. Allen and others against H. C. Devans, appealed from Harney county, which was submitted for a re-hearing. The former opinion was sustained.

### BANK IS CLOSED.

LINCOLN, Nebr., July 30.—The state bank at Octavia has been closed by the state banking bureau. The cashier is missing.

# BREAKS WILL DECIDE TEST ON BALLFIELD

TITANIC STRUGGLE SLATED FOR COVE AND WEISER.

**Cove's Outfield Deemed Superior, Pitchers on a Par and Weiser Infield Said to Be Stronger.**

Tomorrow at 2:30 o'clock is the hour of the titanic struggle between representative baseball teams from two widely separated areas. At that time the Cove champions of the Inter-Mountain League, and Weiser, winners of the pennant in the Oregon-Idaho League, will fight to a finish at the fair grounds lot. Estimates of the crowd that will witness the battle vary between 1000 and 1500.

Manager D. E. Grafe has no doubts about the outcome. He has met one defeat this year out of 16 games played and in letters to friends here declares that he has no intentions of losing tomorrow. Neither does Orville Webb, nor any of the other gladiators who will uphold the Weiser colors.

But that is only part of the story. Lloyd Carter occupies the same relative position with the Cove team. He, too, has no intention of losing. Neither has "Alexander the mighty." Neither has any other member of the Cove team, nor any single person that lives in or about Cove. And there are few people in Union county who have not seen Cove in action and are generous with their assertions that Weiser is not the team to vanquish the cherry growers.

**Pitchers On a Par.**

All of which brings on the tussle that is going to develop between Alexander and Webb. Both are far above the average small-town amateur pitcher. If both are right and at their best, the winning of the game is going to depend upon the support behind each man. If Weiser can puncture the Cove defense Alexander will not be able to stave off defeat. But Cove is patterned strongly after the allied field marshall Joffre, whose best defense was a vigorous attack. Cove wins her ball games by attacking on the entire front and never going on the defensive, which most teams except Cove, in the Intermountain league do in a tight game.

So the writer is of the opinion that there will be little to choose from between the two pitchers. It will be a mighty tight brand of ball that Alexander and Webb will offer the batsmen. This may not be a general opinion, either, but we stand on it.

**Sixteen Others Involved**

It is now up to the rest of the team. Weighing the two teams on hearsay evidence, and not having seen both teams act, we are in the same ship of uncertainty that the fans at large are, but a close search after knowledge reveals the common belief among critics that the Cove outfield is superior to the Weiser gardeners and that Weiser has a bit the best of it in the infield. This is simply giving a digest of all that comes to our ears. It remains for the morrow to prove the accuracy of this estimate of the two teams, for, we say again, we don't know a whole lot about it.

**Breaks Will Be Important**

Under such conditions, it is painfully evident that which way the breaks go will go the game—that's how tight we expect the contest to be, but our prediction is that Cove will get sufficient hits into the outfield to win.

Knowing Cove as we do, we anticipate that her team will drive her hits into the outfield, whereas, Weiser will concentrate on inside ball and infield hits. Which tightens the situation all the more. So the more you analize the situation the less you see through the problem clearly. Tomorrow will tell the story. Those who come early will get the best seats.

# PAROLED MEN EARN BIG SUM DURING JUNE

STATE OFFICER DECLARES THAT BUT FEW SERIOUS CRIMES ARE COMMITTED.

## FAGAN CASE HELD NOTABLE EXCEPTION

**One Hundred and Eighty-Three Men Released from Penitentiary Paid $6,946 for Their Work in June; 1493 Paroled Since 1911; 410 Break Their Word.**

(Observer Salem Bureau.)

SALEM, Ore., July 30.—(Special)—Earnings in legitimate endeavor of 183 paroled men from the Oregon penitentiary who were reporting during the month of June aggregate $6,946.24, according to the report of Percy M. Varney, state parole officer, made to the state parole board. This was an average of $35.77 to the man. At the same time the average earnings of conditionally pardoned men were $66.24 to the man.

Since the passage of the state parole law in 1911 a total of 1493 prisoners have been paroled from the state prison, and 410 of them, or 27.46 per cent have violated their paroles. Of this number 52.44 per cent violated by committing crime and 47.56 per cent by failure to report.

**Crimes by Paroled Men.**

According to Mr. Varney the crimes committed by paroled men, which have caused them to be returned to prison or to put them in the fugitive status, are usually of minor nature. Really serious crimes that have been committed by these men, he avers, could be counted on the fingers of one hand, and the offense committed by Luther Fagan at Hood River recently in kidnapping two women and a boy, resulting in the killing of Fagan by a posse, Varney says is the most serious crime that has been committed by a paroled man. One or two rather sensational cases of forgery and obtaining money by false pretenses are mentioned. Records showing in detail the escapades of the parole violators are not available at the prison.

Up to six months ago, according to the parole officer, 80 per cent of the men on parole were making good. The percentage has been reduced to some extent in recent months because of the prevalence of misdemeanor and crime during the last winter.

**Few Are Oregonians.**

The policy of the prison relative to keeping men in the state when they leave the penitentiary is changing for the reason that a very small percentage of them are Oregonians. The records show that some time back when the prison population was 324 only fifty-seven of the prisoners were Oregonians. Now when a man is through his term in the state prison he is encouraged to leave the state.

In writing up the case of any man who is slated to go before the parole board for consideration, the parole officer is required to submit a statement from the judge who presided at his trial and from the district attorney who prosecuted him; also a statement from the man himself.

**When Paroles are Violated.**

When a paroled man violates his parole by commission of a crime and is returned to the prison he is required by law to serve out the maximum of his old sentence and the minimum of his new sentence before he is eligible again to go before the parole board.

In addition to the regular list of paroled men now reporting to Officer Varney are 128 men who have been paroled from the bench. They also are required to report each month. The form of their report is slightly different from that of the men paroled out of prison. The latter must sign a statement showing among other things the conditions of their parole, their monthly earnings and their occupations.

**Many Are Discharged.**

Mr. Varney now has on his list 112 men who have been released from reporting. Of the 1493 who have been paroled since the law became operative in 1911, 788 have been discharged.

Twelve men were paroled during the month of June.

### THEO. MAYO GIVES BONDS

**Preliminary Examination Waived and Bond Fixed at $500**

UNION, July 30—T. F. Mayo, recently brought from Los Angeles charged with stealing a Velie sedan car belonging the Mrs. Nell Hutchinson, of Union, on or about June 25th, appeared before Justice of the Peace W. A. Maxwell Monday afternoon, waived preliminary examination, and gave bond in the sum of $500 for his appearance in the Circuit Court, the bond being signed by George I. Clark and Mrs. Rose Turner. Prosecuting Attorney Wright and Deputy Sheriff McIlroy appeared in the court at the same time in charge of Mayo. There are no new developments in this case.

### WANT REPRESENTATIVE.

MANILA, July 30.—The Philippines should have a representative at the disarmament conference, it has been announced publicly by the secretary of the interior, Kalaw.

## Exclusive [List]ings Only to be [Mad]e by Realtors

At a meeting of the L[a Grande] Realty Board held Friday members decided that in all new listings will be on an exclusive basis. [illegible]ion is considered an im[illegible] by the realtors represe[nting the] organization because in [illegible] change the real estate [illegible] being put on a basis o[f ser]vice to the public.

Sherwood Williams, [illegible] the board, in discussi[ng the] [act]ion to refuse all but [exclusive list]ings said "La Grande [illegible] place to continue doin[g business in] the manner of a small [town] [illegible] there are only one or [two real es]tate men in a small [illegible] city owner can go to [illegible] them to sell their pr[operty without] any formality.

"But in a city of [La] Grande much inconv[enience is caus]ed the public if own[ers] [illegible] with every real es[tate man] [illegible] estate men will show [illegible] to the same people and waste their own time as well as the customer's time.

"The exclusive listing has the same advantage from the property owner's pointef view. Realtors who advertise their listings cannot afford to advertise a piece of property that is liable to be sold by their competitor."

Mr. Williams as well as other members of the realty board, is convinced that when the property owners understand the greater service they can secure from realtors through exclusive listings there will be none who want to go back to the days when the real estate business was conducted on a basis which made real service to their clients impossible.

C. J. Black, who represented the local realty board at the national convention in Chicago recently, made a report on his trip at the meeting Friday.

### DROWNING THE DUCK