La Grande Evening Observer

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THIRTEEN DEAD

Chiefs Confer on Coal Strike

These men are meeting in Washington in an endeavor to end the nation-wide coal strike. Left to right, John I. Nolan, chairman of the congressional labor committee; John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers; Frank Morrison, secretary, and Samuel Gompers, president of the Federation of Labor.

Walter M. Pierce Issues Platform In His Race For Democratic Nomination

After a meeting in Portland this week, which might be styled a gathering of the leaders of the Democratic party, Walter M. Pierce of La Grande decided to make the race for the Democratic nomination.

This conclusion was arrived at after other candidates had flirted with the opportunity and for some reason could not make up their minds to run. The leaders of the party of Jefferson decided that time was flitting and it was right for the old party to have a candidate and therefore centered on Pierce.

His platform, issued today, is as follows:

The tax situation in Oregon is intolerable.

If real estate, including many homes, is to be saved from confiscation, there must be drastic reductions of taxes. City and farm property, worth millions of dollars, will soon be given up by private owners for the reason that taxes cannot be paid, unless relief is given. This situation must be met, if property rights are to be preserved in this state. If individual right in private property is not maintained civilization will crumble.

Even at present depressed prices there is at least two thousand million dollars worth of property in Oregon. Our total state assessment roll is only one thousand and twenty million; there being at last one thousand million dollars worth of property in Oregon paying no share of the burden of state government.

This one half of the wealth of Oregon that is escaping is mostly invested in money, bonds, and other intangible securities.

No form of assessment has ever been found by any state that can reach this class of property, except through the form of an income tax. No state reaches it today by direct taxation. We cannot experiment in face of the present serious situation. We must act—if homes are to be saved. Therefore, I favor an income tax that will definitely make net incomes, both personal and corporate, bear one half of the burdens of state government. Such an income tax should bear more heavily on unearned incomes than upon earned incomes.

Our total state tax budget this year is $9,376,289.11. I can cut this one million four hundred thousand dollars without in any way injuring the fabric of government. This makes a clean cut of 15 per cent. Then with four million raised from those who enjoy net incomes, the state tax levy will be reduced from 9.4 mills to 4 mills; a saving in the country, outside of cities and special road and school districts, of an average of almost one third of present taxes; and in cities and special road and school districts, a saving of 5.4 mills.

If elected Governor of the State of Oregon, I pledge the people that I will do everything in my power to bring about the enactment and enforcement of measures that will bring this relief.

An income tax is in force at the present time in ten states of the Union. Practically every other state in the Union is considering this as a necessary source of revenue. It has been said that an income tax will drive capital out of Oregon. I do not believe for a moment that those who are fortunate enough to enjoy net incomes will leave Oregon for the reason that we have an income tax.' Indeed such fortunate ones should be glad, out of their abundance, to contribute their

(Continued on Page Six.)

DITCH BREAKS AND FLOODS SOME STREETS

Heavy Rains of Early Evening Resulted in Many Late Pedestrians Getting Wet Feet.

Reports to the effect that a water main had burst were circulated this morning but the roaring stream of water running down Second, Jefferson and several other streets during the night and this morning proved to be due to a headgate of an irrigation ditch breaking, which was badly in need of repairs that had been ordered made by the city last year but that apparently were overlooked by the irrigation company. It is understood that at the time the repairs were ordered the company was told that failure to comply with the order might cost it its franchise.

The water rushed down the hill and across the railroad tracks, under the Second street viaduct and spread over a considerable area on the north side of the tracks, as well as on the south side. At one time during the night the water was over three feet deep at one place on the north side, according to reports, and many people going home late had to wade in water over their shoe tops. In several instances it got into cellars and some damage was one to lawns by mud and silt being deposited on the grass.

The heavy downpour of rain early last evening is believed to have swollen the ditch to such a point that the strain was too great in its weak section.

The damage was repaired this morning.

Censorship Denied By Secretary Hughes

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Ap. 8.—Charges of "censorship," resulting in the deletion of the name of Christ from the opening prayer of the arms conference were denied today by Secretary Hughes. Taking first notice of the charges he repeated several times on the senate floor during the debate on the four power treaty that he wrote Representative Foss of Ohio that the Japanese delegates knew nothing of the commission and that "of course no censorship was exercised."

Refuses to Send Troops

U. S. Army Will Not Help Down New Mexico Strikers

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Apr. 8. — Secretary of War Weeks declined to send federal troops into New Mexico in response to a telegram from Governor Mechem, who said he might need them to preserve order in the Gallup coal fields where martial law was declared yesterday as the result of the disorders due to the coal strike.

More Employes May Be Dismissed By Presidential Order

Making of Stamps and Bank Notes to Stop While Inventory is Taken, Announcement Today.

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Apr. 8.—The division of the bureau of engraving and printing engaged in the production of bank notes, bonds, and postage stamps will be closed tonight for an indefinite period for inventory of the plant from which James L. Wilmeth and 28 chiefs, superintendents and foremen were removed by a presidential order a week ago. It is suggested in some quarters that about 1500 of the 6000 employes are to be dropped.

BULLETINS

(By Associated Press)

SAN FRANCISCO, Apr. 8.—Mrs. Virginia Warren and Mrs. Helen Madeline Whitehurst, of Chicago, defense witnesses in the third Arbuckle trial, were subpoenaed today before the grand jury in connection with their testimony.

(By Associated Press)

PORTLAND, Apr. 8.—Two more deaths from septic sore throat today made the total 13. A boy aged three and A. S. Whiting, aged 72, deputy county assessor, are the latest victims.

PORTLAND HAS SNOW.

PORTLAND, Apr. 8.—A thin mantle of snow fell in the higher parts of the city early today. Later the snow flurries turned to rain.

Texas Swept By Tornado Leaving Ruin In Its Wake

Scattered Reports Indicate Hundred Injured; Death List May Possibly Grow; Property Loss Heavy.

DALLAS, Tex., Apr. 8.—The deaths in the storm early today numbered 13, according to reports from north central Texas and south central Oklahoma. The property damage is estimated as very heavy and many were injured.

(By Associated Press)

FORT WORTH, Texas, Apr. 8.—Four were killed and 55 injured in a storm at Oplin, Calhoun county, according to a telephone message received here.

(By Associated Press)

LAWTON, Okla., Apr. 8.—A woman was killed and a baby probably fatally injured in a storm which swept the Mountain Hill section of Lawton this morning. A number were injured and much property was damaged.

Many Hurt.

(By Associated Press)

FORT WORTH, Texas, Apr. 8.—One woman was killed at Cisco and another seriously hurt and a dozen slightly injured by a storm this morning. A dozen houses were blown down. A theatre was destroyed and store windows were blown out and buildings flooded.

(By Associated Press)

WICHITA FALLS, Tex., Apr. 8.—One man is reported killed and several injured in southeast Electra, where the roofs were blown from 25 houses.

Six Dead.

(By Associated Press)

BALLINGER, Texas, Apr. 8.—Six were killed and seven injured and six homes destroyed by a tornado near Rowena early this morning.

(By Associated Press)

OMAHA, Neb., Apr. 8.—Hot Weather in Nebraska and parts of western Iowa Thursday was followed by wind, rain and hail storms which did considerable damage in a number of instances. About $50,000 damage was reported from a hail storm in Council Bluffs, Iowa, while considerable property loss occurred in suburbs of Lincoln, Neb., from hail. The temperature in Omaha Thursday reached 83 degrees.

Hail Kills Hog.

So severe was the storm in Council Bluffs that a hog weighing 300 pounds belonging to Dr. J. F. Minear, near the city limits, was killed by hail.

HOSPITAL AFIRE.

WALLA WALLA, Apr. 8.—St. Mary's Catholic Hospital is burning. The hospital, one of the largest in this part of the state early this afternoon apparently was doomed to almost total destruction.

FARMERS ARE HOSTS TO THE AD CLUBBERS

Members of County Farm Bureau Entertain Business and Professional Men At Luncheon.

In spite of serious drawbacks the joint luncheon of the Union County Farm Bureau and the Ad Club was a decided success today noon. Last night's downpour in the valley so mudded highways that farmers living a couple of miles from La Grande were denied the privilege of attending. Those who live on the better roads could and did come, and when the luncheon was called to order at the Methodist church, Ad Clubbers and farmers—though limited in numbers—made up with enthusiasm for lacking membership attendance. Elmer Stoddard and his warblers were on hand and furnished music for the occasion. Frank McKennon, retiring president of the farm bureau, presided. Col. Aird, secretary of the state bureau was the first speaker, dwelling upon the fact that in union there is strength, and that Union county is well named because it is now displaying unity of action between farmer and business man. Though brief, Mr. Aird's talk was pointed and helpful.

The chairman explained some of the purposes of the farm bureau—that it was not intended for it to go into the distribution end but to be a producer, yet if distribution was overburdensome, then it was encumbent upon the bureau man to remedy distribution and processing expenses.

Ray Duncan, head of the Cove bureau, spoke briefly confirming what had been said of co-operative work in his section.

C. E. Short, president of the Ad Club, voiced the sentiments of business men by saying that they stood ready to assist, and that farmers from all parts of the county were welcome to bring their problems to headquarters at the Y. M. C. A., where assistance within the possibilities of the club would be extended.

T. H. Crawford had a few minutes to speak and told of some of the things state money is now being appropriated for and had a total of over a million dollars, which he felt sure would and could be materially reduced without serious harm to the state.

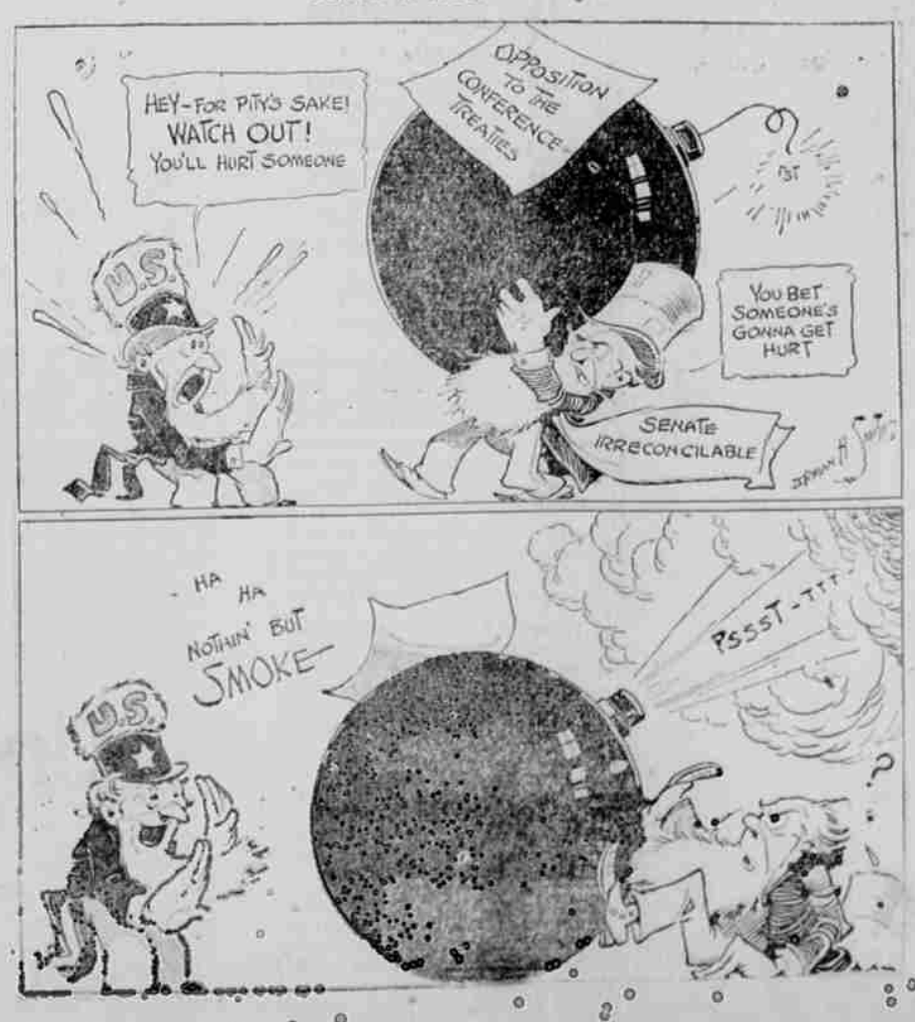
With the singing of another song the meeting adjourned but it was the unanimous belief that similar meetings should be held frequently, but preferrably at t time when there was no likelihood of bad roads infringing on the numbers present.

POLICE HAVE BON-FIRE.

(By Associated Press)

PORTLAND, Apr. 8.—The police today burned gambling paraphernalia, barred doors and other materials seized in a Chinatown raid Thursday.

ONLY A DUO



High School Girls Give Excellent Entertainment

"A very entertaining and interesting performance" was one of the comments on April Antics, given by the Associated Girl Students of L. H. S. last evening in the high school auditorium. Despite the heavy rain the girls played to a large crowd, practically every seat being filled. The A. G. S. can certainly be complimented upon their entertainment last evening as it was far better than the average amateur production.

"Croquet," by the Sophomores; "An Old Fashioned Garden," by Juniors; "Grindescope," by the Seniors, and "Una Serenata Espanola," by the Spanish Club, and "And the Lamps Went Out," by the Freshmen, were all extremely good. The part of the Dodos in Grindescope, played by Ruth Hill, brought much applause.

The entire performance [illegible] through without a single minute loss of interest on the part of the audience. Act followed act in a pleasing way with no falls in the program.

The program was as follows: A number by the orchestra; "Croquet," by the Sophomores; "One Fleeting Hour," a vocal solo by Inez Hughes; "As the Years Roll By," by the Home Economics Club; "The Swan," a violin solo by Dorothy Caldwell; "An Old Fashioned Garden," by the Juniors; "Love and Flowers," a violin duet by Phella Gray and Dorothy Caldwell; "In Days of Ancient Rome," by the Latin Club; a number by the orchestra; "Una Serenada Espanola," by the Spanish Club; "A Rose in My Garden," a vocal solo by Beulah Smith; "And the Lamps Went Out," by the Freshmen; "Du Kleta," A piano solo by Marion Howell, and "Grindescope," by the Seniors.

Lads Play "Hookey" And Are Now Out of School

Spring weather and the movies were the reason why six boys parted company with La Grande high school, although indignant parents managed to appease the authorities enough to get the reinstatement of two of them. The two lucky ones were Leo Howes and T. C. McDonald. The four who still look in the face of freedom happily unmindful of school house are Harold O'Donnell, Donald Behan, A. W. Wells and William Brown, it is reported.

The trouble got started Thursday afternoon when some of a group decided that a good movie show was a far greater attraction than hunting for knowledge among the school text-books and acting on the decision they spent an enjoyable afternoon gazing at the silent drama. Principal E. D. Theler came down on an investigating tour and the result was that the aforesaid six were expelled Friday morning.

Weather

Twilight and Sunrise rain in the west and rain or snow in the east portion of the state with strong northwesterly winds.