

La Grande Evening Observer

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SECTION ONE

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Many Enter Ranks Of "Fun" Society

Initiation Held By City Voiture

Nearly Two Score Join Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Cheveaux.

"WRECKING CREW" SHOWS ITS STUFF

No Casualties Are Reported Among "Goofs" Initiated; Pendleton Voiture Aids La Grander.

The unofficial opening of the American Legion District Conference occurred here last night when the "wrecking crew" of the La Grande Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Cheveaux, assisted by two Legion state officials, and the Pendleton voiture, sent a "bunch of goofs," numbering about two score, through the initiation ropes. "Through the ropes is right," said one of the initiated bunch just after they had worked on his carcass to the best of their ability. "Why, I'm not killed, sick, maimed and wounded I don't know, but maybe it wasn't as bad as it seemed to me—just anyhow. I'm more than glad to be in the future putting someone else through the same, and I went through," and he smiled a self-satisfied smile and his countenance expressed mischievous and awful anticipation of the time when he, too, would join the "wrecking crew," not as a victim, but as a full-fledged wrecker.

The initiation exercises, which were held in the Eagles Hall, began just after the No. 18, bearing a delegation from Portland and Western Oregon towns, and the Umatilla county Legionnaires, pulled into town and unloaded its passengers. The old "40-8" truck, red in color, and with a horse inside, was hauled to the scene of action and the fun began. To tell just what happened to the victims would be bringing down everlasting hatred from the members, but anyhow it served the purpose, and the "goat-riders" came out of it physically as fit as ever, merely carrying with them a few reminiscences of what they thought they were getting.

Following the exercises delicious refreshments were served to those present and during the consummation of same, short talks were in order, stories of olden times and not so olden times were swapped freely. The unofficial opening was a grand success, if the joint decision of those who were present is accepted.

CONFERENCE TO BE HELD HERE

The L. B. S. quarterly conference will be held in the La Grande tabernacle next Saturday and Sunday, Mar. 16 and 17, was the announcement made today.

A special priesthood meeting will be held at two o'clock in the afternoon on Saturday and all members of the priesthood are expected to be present. Several important matters will be discussed at this time.

WHITFIELD REMAINS SILENT

(By Associated Press)
VANCOUVER, Wash., Mar. 10.—Severe grilling of George Edward Whitfield throughout the night and early today was continued by officers in an effort to obtain some light on the killing of Anna Necks, 11-year-old school girl, whose mutilated body was found in a thicket near Battleground Thursday night. Whitfield remained unshaken in his denials and knowledge of the crime.

TRAPSHOOTING TOMORROW
The usual Sunday trapshooting program will be observed tomorrow by the Country club traps between the hours of 12 and 3 o'clock. F. L. Lilly will be supervisor and urges everyone to be there, ready to get into the firing squad, promptly at noon.

Taft Sorry His Namesake, A Bull Elk, Misbehaved

Ex-President William H. Taft is considered not only as one of the country's greatest men but also one of the nation's wisest. Mute evidence of his latter attribute was received by Judge J. W. Knowles, in answer to a letter he sent recently to Ex-President Taft relative to the attempted slaying of Bill Taft, the bull elk, king of the Wallawa county herd. The letter read: "My dear Judge Knowles: I thank you for your note. I am very sorry to hear that my namesake is misbehaving. Sincerely yours, Wm. H. Taft."

The story of the "namesake" is one full of interest. Bill Taft, long king of the elk in the upper country,

Flogging Is Recommended For Wife-Beaters By Cops In Buffalo; Cops Irrate

(By Associated Press)
BUFFALO, Mar. 10.—The whipping post as a restraining influence on wife-beaters is favored by the probation officers of this city. Their opinion was expressed during the hearing recently of an exceptionally brutal case. Serious cases of wife-beating in which the woman carried the marks for days or weeks average about 50 a year in this city, and there are frequent "repeaters."

"Flogging is the only remedy for these brutes," says William T. Glavin, chief probation officer. "The lash is being used in Delaware and Canada, and I would like to see it adopted in New York."

Bad whiskey figured in most recent cases of wife-beating, the court records show.

SUCCESS MARKS PRESENTATION SENIOR DRAMA

"Come Out of the Kitchen" Well Deserving of Complimentary Appreciation of Audience.

The three act comedy drama, presented by the Senior Class of the La Grande high school last evening, in the high school auditorium, lived up to all its advance notices. "Come Out of the Kitchen" was one continuous round of laughter from start to finish, alive with clean, refreshing, gently humorous, carrying a dominant, interesting plot through to a successful close, and involving round upon round of hearty applause from an appreciative audience that thronged into the auditorium until not a seat was left vacant.

Burton Crane, with his Northern quality of overlooking minor mistakes, Solon Tucker, his attorney, a high-sounding phrase-making individual, cranky to a lovable fault, Paul Danglefield, a perfect butler and valet, Charles Danglefield, hot-headed and assertive, Randolph Weeks, with his dominant interest in O'Brien, Thomas Jefferts, statistical poet, Olivia Danglefield, a cook and excellent and a little too pretty for her position, Elizabeth Danglefield, like her brother Charles, equipped with the Southern temper, Mrs. Kallenger, an irritable, commanding personality, hard to please, her daughter Cora, romantic but without obedient, and Amanda, Olivia's black mammy, all lent an individual touch to the plot that would have been incomplete had anyone of the participants been absent. Each part was played with a finesse and

(Continued on Page Six.)

RADICALS GIVE THEMSELVES UP

Ten Alleged Radicals In the Court Room of Benton Harbor Trial; Rose Stokes Among the Ten.

(By Associated Press)
BENTON HARBOR, Mich., Mar. 10.—A motion of the defense in the trial of 22 alleged radicals for a change of venue on the grounds that because of publicity a fair trial in Benton county is impossible, was denied today by Circuit Judge Charles W. White.

The defense sprung a surprise today by announcing that ten accused radicals, wanted by the prosecution on the same charge, were in court and would voluntarily surrender. Three of the ten are women, including Rose Pastor Stokes, nationally known radical.

I BELIEVED KILLED IN OIL FIRE

Pipe Line of Union Oil Com- pany Bursts Near Artesia, Calif.

MANY INJURED IN MAMMOTH BLAZE

Women Driven from Homes Scantly Clad, While Men Fight Fire, Finally Winning Early Today.

(By Associated Press)
LOS ANGELES, Mar. 10.—An oil fire which broke out when the pipe line of the Union Oil company burst near Artesia, 18 miles southeast of Los Angeles, was extinguished early today after an all night battle.

One man is believed dead and several hurt. Three buildings were burned.

The blazing oil scattered about 250 feet wide, nearly a mile long and endangered dwelling houses. Women and children were driven out of their homes scantily clad while the men battled the flames.

MAD DOG SHOWS AT M'CLURE FARM

While this seems to be the wrong season of the year for a dog suddenly to show rabies, James McClure is convinced that one of his farm dogs developed the dreaded disease recently. Mr. McClure consulted a veterinarian in La Grande and confirmed his belief to the extent that he went home and killed the dog. Another dog on his farm was bitten also some live stock, and constant watch is being kept over all in order to prevent a spread of the trouble.

PRISONERS ARE TAKEN TO SALEM

Sheriff Lee Warnick and Prosecuting Attorney Ed Wright left for Salem today with their convicted men who will be lodged in the state prison. They were Edman Sumpter, A. J. Howell, Joe Martinez and Roy Couch.

Sheriff Warnick will go on to Long Beach, California, where he will take Frank Huffmeyer, wanted here on the charge of wife desertion, into custody. Mr. Wright will return to La Grande.

IT'S HARD TO TELL WHICH IS HAPPIER



JOSEPH G. CANNON
UNCLE JOE CANNON
IS BACK AT HOME

(By Associated Press)
DANVILLE, Ill., Mar. 10.—"I am back in my hometown, to spend the balance of my days with my folks," declared Uncle Joe Cannon upon his arrival home Friday afternoon.

A salute of aerial bombs, and a few friends gathered at the station constituted the greeting he received in compliance with his own wishes. The home folks intended to hold a banquet at which he will be the guest of honor when they will formally welcome him home.

After greeting "the boys" at the station, Uncle Joe Cannon was escorted to his home, accompanied by his daughter, Miss Helen Cannon, members of his party, and spent a quiet evening.

Long Service.
DANVILLE, Ill., Mar. 10.—"Uncle Joe" Cannon, patriarch of Congress, is back once today definitely retired from public service for the first time since he went to Washington during President Grant's administration.

MAN CHARGED WITH TAKING \$100,000 SUM

James M. Lindsay, Formerly Treasurer of Stock Yards Company, Named in Criminal Warrant.

(By Associated Press)
ST. PAUL, Mar. 10.—A warrant was issued today for the arrest of James M. Lindsay, former treasurer of the St. Paul Union-Stock Yards company, charging him with appropriating \$100,000 of the company's funds for his own use.

LEGION EVENING
PROGRAM
6:00 p. m.—Banquet at Methodist church, corner of Spring and Fourth.
9:00 p. m.—Closing dance at Rex Hall.

EASTERN OREGON LEGION CONFERENCE IS IN FULL SWAY IN LA GRANDE NOW

TURKS SEND RETURN NOTE TO ALLIES

C. CONSTANTINOPLE, Mar. 10.—Turkish counter proposals to the peace treaty drafts at Lausanne that were handed to Allied High Commissioners last night are understood to be on their way today to Allied capitals.

The document presented in parallel columns the text of the Lausanne document being faced with modifications proposed by the Turks, chiefly referring to the economic section and the capitulations provisions.

GOMPERS ILL IN NEW YORK

His Condition is Described as Serious But "Not Im- mediately Dangerous."

NEW YORK, Mar. 10.—Samuel Gompers, 73, president of the American Federation of Labor, is at Lenox Hill hospital, this city, suffering from influenza and bronchial pneumonia, it was learned Friday night.

His secretary, W. C. Roberts, announced that Mr. Gompers's physician, Dr. Gustav Fisch, reported the patient's condition as serious, "his advanced age retarding convalescence." Mrs. Gompers arrived from Washington, D. C., Friday and went at once to her husband's bedside.

After later consultation with other physicians, among them Dr. Evan Evans, a noted specialist, Dr. Fisch announced Mr. Gompers was "in no immediate danger, although he is a very sick man." Overwork had combined with old age to lower his vitality, they said.

AD CLUB WILL MEET K. P. HALL TUESDAY

The weekly noon-day meeting of the Union County Ad club will be held next Tuesday in the K. P. hall, with the Loyal Neighbors catering. J. H. Peare will be chairman of the day and Dr. Ingle will deliver a speech of interest to all members at that time. A complete attendance is desired.

COUNTRY CLUB DANCE

The March Country club dance will be held at the Country club on the evening of Friday, March 16th.

Washington Man Leaps To Death From Top Of Washington Monument

WASHINGTON, Mar. 10.—A leap from a small window near the top of the Washington monument, 504 feet from the ground, brought instant death Friday to A. Birney Seip, grandson of the late General William Birney, who served with distinction during the Civil war as a brigadier general in the Union army.

Seip had been suffering from a nervous disease for several years, relatives said and had left home unknown to his mother.

STATE PROJECT TO BE PROBED; WORK'S ORDERS

Investigation of Proposed Columbia Basin and Umatilla Rapids Reclamation is Directed.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 10.—Secretary Work of the interior department announced Friday he had directed the investigation of the proposed Columbia basin and Umatilla rapids reclamation for which congress recently appropriated \$150,000.

The secretary also announced he had designated Assistant Secretary Goodwin whose home is in Spokane, Wash., and Director Davis of the reclamation service to advise him further as to the engineering, water, legal and other questions arising in connection with the projects.

Mr. Goodwin, who has made some preliminary studies of the Columbia river basin project for private interests, Mr. Work said, may be requested later to act in a consulting and advisory capacity. On completion of the investigation Secretary Work will submit a report and recommendations to congress.

Investigation of the projects, it was said, will begin about May 1.

The Columbia basin irrigation project, located in the Big Bend district of the Columbia river in the state of Washington is the largest single irrigation unit in the United States. It contains 3,000,000 acres, of which it is proposed to irrigate 2,000,000 acres. Eighty-five per cent of the land involved is privately owned, the remainder being public lands of the United States and Washington.

BULLETINS

GEORGE PIPER DEAD

(By Associated Press)
PORTLAND, Mar. 10.—George P. Piper, collector of Oregon customs, died today as the result of a stroke of apoplexy suffered some days ago. He was a brother of Edgar B. Piper, editor of the Morning Oregonian and Fred Piper, local attorney. He was 53 years of age, unmarried, and had been in newspaper work in the coast states and active politics in Washington and Oregon.

BANDITS MAKE HAUL

(By Associated Press)
SACRAMENTO, Mar. 10.—Five masked bandits, in real wild west fashion, swarmed into the Dreamland Cafe, a resort on the lower Stockton road near here, early today, and compelled patrons and employees to line up and be searched. They escaped with several thousand dollars in cash and jewelry.

SUM COLLECTED

(By Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, Mar. 10.—The department of agriculture announced today a total of \$682,477 excess profits of dealers on the 1918 wool clip had been collected and that \$350,365 of this amount had been distributed to more than 100,000 wool growers throughout the country under the regulations of the war industries board which had recently been upheld by the courts.

WHEAT QUOTATIONS

PORTLAND, Mar. 10.—Hard white \$1.18; Western Red \$1.18.

Motorists Are Warned To Not Violate Laws

Determined efforts are being made by both the county sheriff and his deputies and the La Grande police force to do away with violations of the traffic laws, especially in connection with the use of sirens and gongs on other but emergency vehicles, and to impress upon the motorists that it is absolutely necessary that the car is not used when but one headlight is working, when the tail lights are either out of order or that the importance of dimming

Legions Here Now 200 Strong

Morning Roll Call and Ad- dresses Officially Open Caucus

BIG BANQUET TO BE THIS EVENING

Conference of Eastern Oregon Post Commanders and Other Post Officials Is In Progress.

Although there was no booming guns, flash of artillery, or scratching of crotches present, over two hundred ex-doughboys, ex-sailors and ex-marines, members of the American Legion, who served under the Red, White and Blue during the World's war, gathered this morning at ten o'clock in the city hall and officially opened the first Eastern Oregon Legion District Convention with the calling of the conference roll. Representatives from practically every Legion post in the seven Eastern Oregon counties were present.

Kiddle Presides.

Presided over by Fred Kiddle, of Island City, vice-commander of the Oregon department, those present, following the calling of the roll, were addressed by several state and northwest Legion officials, representing the Veterans' Aid Bureau.

Kenneth Cooper, sub-district manager of Oregon, spoke on "Vocational training."

He fully explained vocational training, the time limit for the procuring of disability vocational training claims, told of the extension of the time limit in regards to tuberculosis cases and of the necessity of preparing claim evidence fully before making application. "The Vocational Training was the biggest factor when war first started," he said, "but since that time, with more and more men being cared for, it has gradually decreased."

W. T. McNulty, of the employment department of the Oregon Legion, told of the aims and work of the department. "Solely to aid the disabled veteran, was the department started," he said, "and since its inauguration, the results we have obtained has been very successful." Those who come under the workings of the department are fitted for employment in the vocational department and are then placed through the department represented by Mr. McNulty.

Zack L. Taylor, of Portland, chief of the Oregon co-operative district, gave a brief talk on claims. "Come on boys," was the gist of his message, "and give us something to do."

Mr. Clary, representative of the Pacific Legion, gave a short and instructive address and following his speech, many questions, presented by Legionnaires present, were answered by the speakers.

Noon Friendly Hour.

Get acquainted was the object of the noon hour and it worked. Everybody gained several friends during this period and some of the conversations, relative to olden times and present conditions, would make many interesting stories themselves, provided they could be gathered.

Officers' Meeting.

This afternoon at 1:30 o'clock the post commanders, vice-commanders, historians, adjutants, finance officers and chaplains gathered at the city hall and until 3:30 o'clock, when a general assembly of all Legionnaires was held in the city hall, spent the time in routine business. Bradley T. Fowles, district co-operative chief, addressed the officers on government insurance, stressing many points and impressing the details of the matter upon his audience.

Weather Fair.

Despite the fact that for a few hours this morning it looked like a sunny afternoon, the sky clouded up and although no rain fell early in the afternoon, the weather could have been more agreeable. "But what do we care about the weather?" one Legionnaire asked. "We're all here, we're all having a good time, and what more could be wanted."

State Officials Here

George R. Wilbur, of Hood River, state commander, is here, as is Fred Kiddle, of Island City, vice-commander.

(Continued on Page Six.)