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ACTIVITY STARTS IN RAILROAD CIRCLES

ERA OF IMPROVEMENT HAS NOW COMMENCED

O. R. & N. Co. Begins Working Out of Plans Which Will Involve Expenditure of Over a Million Dollars—Gangs Now at Work.

There is renewed activity in local railroad circles and it is expected that the breaking up of winter will be the signal for the opening up of a greater era of railroad building and improvement in eastern Oregon.

A crew of surveyors has been at work for several days, setting the grade stakes for the changes which are to be made in the road between this city and Yoakum. A little more than a million dollars will be spent in this work which includes the eliminating of curves and grades and the improvement of the roadbed.

In addition to this, fence-building gangs are now being organized to fence the unfenced portion of the road. The most notable piece in this vicinity being the entire Pilot Rock branch. The posts were distributed for this work once and then they were gathered up again, but apparently the company now expects to complete the work at this time.

With the fencing of this branch line completed, the Condon, Wallowa valley and other branch lines will be taken care of.

MINISTER WORE TOO GAUDY HABILIMENTS

Lajara, Colo., Feb. 16.—If a minister, a Methodist minister, wears gay hose, turned up trousers and fashionable shirts is he a sport and unfit to lead his flock?

Apparently the official board of the First Methodist church of Lajara and Bowen think such a mode of dressing indicates a "sport" for as a result of charges brought against him, Rev. B. F. Turner, pastor of the church, who came to Lajara from the east three months ago, has resigned and his resignation has been accepted.

When Rev. Turner came to Lajara, he was immediately placed under investigation. Mrs. Hamilton, one of the church's leaders, finally acquainted the minister with the following beliefs:

- That he turned up his trousers.
- That he wore a cap.
- That his shirts were fashionable.
- That he went skating with the young people of the church.

Summarized, they believed him a "man of the world."

Heated discussions before the board resulted in the minister's resignation but failed to bring harmony, for the church board also has resigned.

King Ed. Buys Villa.

London, Feb. 16.—A dispatch to the Chronicle from Milan says that the beautiful villa Brazilliana at Possilipo, on the bay of Naples, has been purchased on behalf of King Edward. It is rumored according to the dispatch, that one of the first guests the king and queen will entertain there will be Theodore Roosevelt.

Vanity in women is almost as bad as conceit in a man.

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PERSONAL MENTION

D. Ward of Boise, is caring for business interests in Pendleton.

A. W. Douglass of Athena, is a Pendleton business visitor today.

J. Merle Roby came down from Athena on the morning train.

A. L. Barnes of North Powder, is a guest at the Hotel Bowman.

J. M. Taylor of Athena, came down from that place on the evening train yesterday.

John Clancy of Echo, came up from that town last evening for a brief visit.

E. C. Skiles, the traveling man, came in this morning from his home in Walla Walla.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Starkweather of North Yakima, are now here upon a visit with relatives.

Mrs. T. C. Warner left this morning for Portland, where she will visit friends for a few days.

BICYCLE AEROPLANE TO MAKE FLYING CHEAP

Berlin.—Herr Gustavus Lillenthal, the German inventor, a brother of the famous pioneer of aviation who lost his life on Tempelhof plain in 1896, claims to have discovered an epoch making innovation in flying machines.

He has invented an aeroplane that can be worked by human muscles without requiring any mechanical motor power. Herr Lillenthal's new apparatus will enable every man or woman with ordinary strength to become a human bird.

The inventor believes that the "air bicycle," as he calls his new invention will in the near future become as popular as road bicycles are at present.

Herr Lillenthal's apparatus is bird-like in shape and has two large wings, but is light, and is propelled just as easily as a bicycle can be worked on the road. When the aviator ceases to work, the flying machine quietly glides to the ground.

Herr Lillenthal refuses to make any more details public at present, but he imported confidential information on his marvelous invention to an assembly of German experts, who met to hear his description of the invention.

It deeply impressed the experienced aviators, who left the clubroom in which Herr Lillenthal's lecture was delivered with the feeling that aerial navigation is on the threshold of its most important development.

Ira Kemp, one of the well known residents of Weston, is down from the former normal school town today on business.

J. E. Taylor of Echo, spent last night in Pendleton, while on his way home from a business visit of a few days to Athena.

Dr. S. W. McClure, chief of the bureau of animal industry in the northwest, was a westbound passenger on the morning local.

Howard Miller, the eastern Oregon representative of the circulation department of the Portland Journal, went to Pilot Rock this morning.

Dwight Jessie, a freight conductor on the O. R. & N., with his home in La Grande, passed through Pendleton last evening on his way home from a few days' visit in Walla Walla.

DR. BURKE'S ATTORNEY WITHDRAWS FROM CASE

Santa Rosa, Cal., Feb. 16.—After several hours conference with Dr. Willard P. Burke, Attorney W. N. Oates close friend and confidant of the physician announced his withdrawal as counsel for the defense of the sanitarian proprietor who is charged with having attempted to kill Luella Smith by blowing her up with dynamite. Oates first refused to give the reason for his withdrawal but when pressed angrily declared: "I handle only civil cases." Further than this he would not discuss the matter. While it is true that Oates only handled civil cases for Burke, he is regarded as the one leading criminal lawyer in Sonoma county, according to District Attorney Lea. The retirement of Oates from the case aroused considerable comment here, as it was thought he would be the leading attorney in Burke's defense.

PROMINENT SPOKANE MAN SHOOTING HIMSELF FATALLY

Spokane, Feb. 16.—Without giving warning as to his intentions, F. E. Michaels, proprietor of the Michaels school of telegraphy, committed suicide by shooting himself at his home early today. His health is believed to have caused the act. Michaels was formerly chief train dispatcher in Spokane for the Northern Pacific railroad and has been prominent in local politics. He was one of the leading members of the order of Masons in this city.

ECCENTRIC MILLIONAIRE'S WILL IS BROKEN

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 16.—The Illinois supreme court today broke the will of Colonel Thomas Snell, the eccentric Gatesburg millionaire, who left a greater part of his estate to be divided among the young women of his acquaintance. The court ordered the estate to be divided among the colonel's heirs. This is a victory for his son, Richard Snell, whom the instrument cut off with a mere pittance.

MRS. BELLE GUNNESS WAS NOT FOUND BY SHERIFF

La Porte, Ind., Feb. 16.—Sheriff Antisa of La Porte county, who went to Washington state in search of Mrs. Belle Gunness, today wired that the reported murderess on the Pacific coast was not found. Following a publication in Norwegian papers in the matrimonial advertisements by a woman said to resemble Mrs. Gunness, the sheriff went to Washington to investigate. The wire stated he would return immediately.

WALLA WALLA COMPANY CAN FIND NO COOKS

..We can do without art, We can do without books But civilized man Can not do without cooks.

Walla Walla, Wash.—Some poet, some generations back, made a remark something to this effect and it has been quoted in a jocular way since but Captain Weyrauch, Co. K, W. N. G., sees it in a more serious light

and is wondering what he is going to do.

Captain Weyrauch, retired army officer, is organizing a company of the National Guard here and has been chosen captain. Men are being enlisted daily in the organization and none of them would be adverse to being an officer of some kind—in fact they frequently remind the captain of this.

But never a one of them wants to be a cook. The mess tent offers no inducement to Walla Walla's citizen soldiery, in fact, they became indignant when asked about it. Neither does anyone want to be trumpeter—two of these are needed—and the position of "handy man" about the camp bids fair to be unfilled.

Knowing that the strength of the army lies in its stomach Captain Weyrauch is desirous of making his company strong, but he is not getting encouragement.

So he daily enlists would-be lieutenants, "top" and line sergeants, corporals of the regular and a nice variety and privates, while the positions of cook, trumpeter and handy man are vacant.

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Busy Boston Store

COL. ROOSEVELT'S SILENCE EMBARRASSES DER KAISER

Berlin.—The foreign office for some weeks has endeavored to learn just when former President Roosevelt expects to be in Germany, but is still in the dark as to his plans. It has been widely published that Roosevelt will be in Berlin on April 28, but if this is so it is not known officially, and the situation is embarrassing in a way as Emperor William's spring plans cannot be definitely arranged in the meantime, because his majesty purposes to be in the capital when his guest arrives.

Official messages have been addressed to Roosevelt, with instructions that they be forwarded with the greatest dispatch and, if necessary, by native runners if he can't thus be reached sooner between telegraphic points. A reply from him making known his intentions is expected any day.

It is understood that the emperor

has invited Roosevelt to be his personal guest, and whether he will be accorded the honors usually bestowed upon the head of a government is a question which is frequently suggested by the press.

That the former president will be thus honored is denied with much positiveness by one of the news agencies today. This agency declares that however much the emperor may desire to honor his guest he cannot receive him personally at the railway station or send a royal prince as his representative to meet him, because this would be a too obvious departure from state etiquette.

Every boy or girl under the age of 16 who draws a picture of the famous Red Goose and brings it to The Peoples Warehouse Shoe Department will receive a prize and will also be entitled to a chance in the competition for the \$10.00 prize.

Read the East Oregonian

BIG FAMILIES IN LONDON.

Birth Rates Not Declining in the East Side of the Capital.

London.—The registrar-general, in his survey of statistics of population, is always pointing out that the birth rate in the United Kingdom is declining, a gradual decrease having taken place since 1895, when the figures were 29.4 per 1000, until it is now only 26.4 per 1000.

The declining birth rate is something of a myth in the east end of London amongst the Jewish population. There is as much poverty and overcrowding there as anywhere else, but large families are the rule and many medical authorities have testified to splendid physique and stamina of the Jewish child, due chiefly to good feeding and the abstemious life of the parents.

As illustrative of the high birth rate in that quarter of London, reference may be made to the ballot paper just issued for the election of twenty boys as inmates of the community's orphanage at West Norwood. The total number of children in the 30 families selected by the committee is 158, or 5 children per family. Two of the families consist of ten, three of eight, two of seven, and so on down to only four with three and two with a couple. All the families live in the east-end district, except six. Large families are also the rule among Jews in the provinces.

BAREFOOT DANCER WILL COME TO FREE AMERICA

London, Feb. 16.—Commanded never again to appear in St. James court and indignant at many of her friends who apparently are willing to ostracize her for this reason, Lady Constance Richardson, whose wonderful barefoot dance incurred the displeasure of King Edward, is going to America. It is rumored here also that the dancer's husband, Sir Edward Richardson, has suffered financial reverses that makes it almost necessary for Lady Constance to help. Report today has it that Lady Constance will engage in vaudeville work in New York.

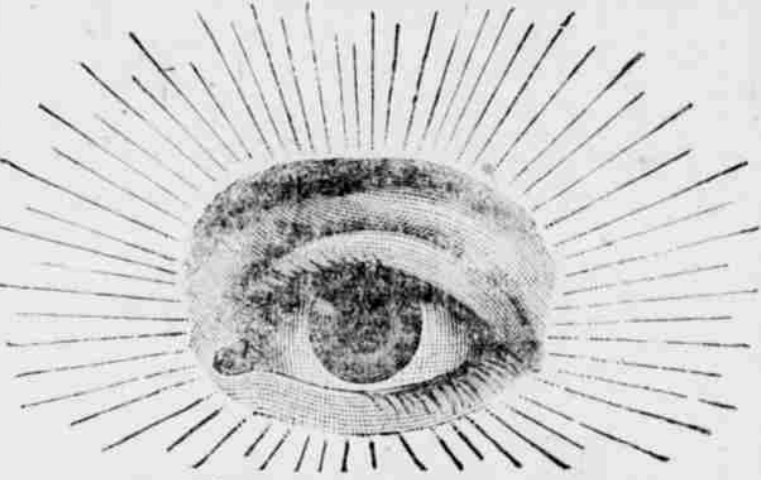
Prince Is a Dramatist.

Vienna.—Prince Nicholas, the reigning sovereign of Montenegro, is the author of a drama which has been produced at Cetinje, the Montenegrin capital. Much enthusiasm greeted the performance in the presence of the royal author and his suite. The piece is called "Prince Arvanit" and deals with an incident in the history of Montenegro, and it is said there is an undercurrent of meaning connected with the Montenegrins' struggle against Austrian aggression.

Wooden Bell Syndicate.

Paris.—A "wooden bell" syndicate has been founded in Paris by some very "advanced" socialists. To "change one's residence to the tune of the wooden bell" means leaving a house or flat surreptitiously by night in order to avoid paying rent, and the purpose of this society is to make this maneuver easy for its members. The syndicate has been duly registered and incorporated and holds meetings at the Labor Exchange. Forty-three "moonlight flits" were successfully arranged by the syndicate on January 8.

The man who looks downward is impressed with his own greatness, but the one who looks upward realizes his own smallness.



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