

The East Oregonian has the largest paid circulation of any paper in Oregon, and is published twice the circulation in Portland of any other newspaper.



DAILY EVENING EDITION
Forecast for Eastern Oregon by the United States Weather Observer at Portland.
Fair tonight and Wednesday; colder tonight.

POSTOFFICE CAN HANDLE RUSH OF HOLIDAY SEASON

Officials are Prepared to Take Care of the Largest Business in the History of Local Office.

STAMP SALE MAKING RECORD

Up to Date There Has Been Increase of 30 Per Cent Over Sales of Last Year at This Time—Postmaster Tweedy Gives Information Regarding Sending Packages.

Preparation for the handling of the largest holiday business in the history of the Pendleton postoffice has now been completed by Postmaster Tweedy. From all indications this Christmas will establish a record for at this date the stamp sales are over 30 per cent ahead of the same date for the month of December last year.

Be sure and prepay postage fully on all parcels. Address parcels fully and plainly and if sent to a large city be sure to place the street and house number on the parcel.

Always place your name and address on the parcel and if it is not delivered it will be returned to you. Parcels without your return card will be returned to you.

Do not seal your parcels for that makes them first class and will be charged at the rate of two cents per ounce. If you use stickers or Red Cross stamps do not place them on the folds of the packages or where the strings cross for this makes the parcel sealed.

Patrons will greatly lessen the labors of the clerks if they will separate the long and short letters and place the letters so the stamps will be in the same corners. This applies only to those who mail large quantities of letters at one time.

With the cooperation of the public and the extra force in the office it will be possible to dispatch all parcels as they are mailed, and arrangements will also be made to deliver all parcels arriving in the office, before the end of Christmas day.

Telephone Merger Involves Million Dollars Capital

OREGON, WASHINGTON AND BRITISH COLUMBIA LINES ARE INCLUDED.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 14.—The complete negotiations by the end of this week or early next, and then will be glad to divulge information. Publicity now would be premature and embarrass me in my dealings.

Plans for Opening Community House Will be Discussed

IDEA WILL BE SIMILAR TO COFFEE CLUB WHICH WAS SUCCESS LAST YEAR.

Plans for the opening of a community house, similar to the Coffee Club of last year, will be discussed next Monday evening at a meeting of committees from all organizations interested. The Associated Charities, which is taking the lead in the move, has called the meeting for that evening at 7 o'clock at the city hall.

GERMAN CLAIMS THE RAILROADS HELPING WIN WAR FOR KAISER

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP VITAL STEP IN PREPAREDNESS, SAYS MINISTER

(By Carl W. Ackerman, United Press Staff Correspondent.) BERLIN, via Amsterdam, Dec. 14.—Government ownership of railroads is a vital step in the military preparedness program of any nation, including the United States, Minister of Railroads von Breitenbach, who directs the largest part of Germany's gigantic network of railways, told the United Press today.

"Without misjudging the efficiency of well administered privately owned lines," said von Breitenbach, "referring to railway organization in the United States, the efficiency of government lines is greater."

"It is conceivable that private owners should enlarge their stocks of locomotives and cars so as to be able to meet any requirements of congestion. State railways, on the other hand, try to prepare for such traffic. This makes their position strong and enables them to realize the demands both of war and peace traffic."

von Breitenbach is personally responsible to the kaiser for the administration of the railroads during the war. He estimated today that the new lines acquired and built in conquered territory now form at least 25 per cent of the whole German railway system. And it was his handling of this great iron spider web, stretching into Russia, France and Belgium, that led some critics to remark that "General Railroad has won more battles and campaigns in this war than any other general."

He had just finished describing the great railway improvements recently undertaken in Germany.

"Would it have been possible to have realized the demands made upon Germany's railways during the war if they had been privately owned?" he was asked.

"Well in the war of 1870 the railways were not united and were chiefly private," he answered, "but that war was fought on one front."

"I may say without offending their owners that private lines of railroads are administered in the interests of stockholders, who are not inclined to make the investments I have liked because no returns are guaranteed. I think there is no doubt but that a state railway like the Prussian with a uniformly strong organization, meets the requirements of war and peace better than a privately owned system."

"The fact that we have government owned railroads is due to Bismarck. He conceived that idea not as a preparation for war, but to promote our economic life, to bring our traffic policies in accordance with our economic policies. Thirty-five years ago the idea met with great opposition. Today it has not an opponent in the reichstag."

"The mileage of Germany's railways changes daily as new lines are built into conquered territory. That means new details to be looked after. Altogether Minister von Breitenbach indicated today that it is no easy job to administer the German railways."

"During mobilization, the whole peace timetable is useless," he said. "The military timetable is effective then; the traffic managers are entrusted with various duties under my control."

"Quite naturally the difficulties of management are especially serious during the heavy spring and autumn traffic. Then, too, all these difficulties must be overcome with greater effectiveness in times of war than in times of peace, especially when military orders call for the transportation of large bodies of troops, are suddenly given out."

(Continued on page five.)

TOWN IS SWEEPED BY FIRE; SCORES WITHOUT HOMES

Wisconsin Town's Business District is Wiped Out—Cold is Intense and Hundreds Suffering.

AID ASKED FROM NEIGHBORS

Cause of Fire is Mystery—Illizard Adds to Horrors of Eastern Winter and Big Cities Are Storm-Bound—30 Inches of Snow in Western Massachusetts.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 14.—Direct charges that Baron Von Brincken, C. C. Crowley and Mrs. Margaret Cornell, sent mail matter intended to incite Louis J. Smith at Detroit to burn the Aetna Chemical company plant at Aetna, Ill., and the Aetna Explosive plant at Ishpeming, Michigan, are made in the indictments returned by the federal grand jury. Additional charges alleged the trio sent mail intended to "incite arson, murder and assassination."

NECEDDAH, Wis., Dec. 14.—The business section of Necedah and scores of homes were burned today. The weather is the coldest of the winter and scores are homeless, walking the streets to keep warm. The cause of the fire is unknown.

Hazel Bulger, a telephone operator summoned aid from other towns. She said she would stick to the switchboard until the building was afire. At that hour the flames were nearing the building. The fire is unchecked.

BOSTON, Dec. 14.—Thirty inches of snow have fallen in the Berkshire hills in 24 hours. Traffic is blocked and the storm is still raging. It is the worst since 1888.

June 7 is the Date Fixed for Holding G.O.P. Convention

REPUBLICANS DECIDE TO GATHER WEEK BEFORE DEMOCRATS LINE UP

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Chicago was chosen as the convention city by the republicans this afternoon.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The republican national convention will be held June 7, the week before the democratic. The date was fixed by a vote of 37 to 13, the minority favoring June 27 on account of the Maine and South Dakota primaries being scheduled after June 7.

Chicago claims to have a majority of votes pledged as the convention city. It is expected San Francisco will receive a large complimentary vote on the first ballot. The committee ratified the reduction of 36 in the southern representation.

Cheyenne Chief of Police Doubts He Has the Murderer

CHEYENNE, Wyo., Dec. 14.—Chief of Police Embury said today he did not believe the man giving the name of William F. Smith is George Bartholomew, wanted in Portland in connection with the murder of John Linn. He is sending Smith's photograph to Portland.

Wheat Goes Upward Today in Chicago

CHICAGO, Dec. 14.—(Special)—Wheat quotations today, Dec. 11-15 7-8-41-15 1-4; May, \$1.17-11.17 1-4; July \$1.49 1-2-41.99 7-8.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 14.—(Special)—Merchants' Exchange prices today, club \$2 bid, 94 asked, blue-stem, 94 bid, 98 asked.

Liverpool, Dec. 13.—Wheat—Spot No. 1 Manitoba, 12s 2d; No. 2 12s; No. 3 11s 11d; No. 2 hard winter, new, 11s 9d.

In American terms the top price for Liverpool is \$1.78 per bushel.

LETTERS REVEAL PLOT INVOLVING GERMAN ATTACHE

Indictments Directly Charge That Baron von Brincken Sent Mail Matter Urging Destruction.

TRIO PLACED UNDER ARREST

Crowley and Mrs. Cornell Jointly Indicted—PMB is Uncerthly to Destroy Munition Plants and Offices of Money Made for Work—Letters Written Party in Code.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 14.—Direct charges that Baron Von Brincken, C. C. Crowley and Mrs. Margaret Cornell, sent mail matter intended to incite Louis J. Smith at Detroit to burn the Aetna Chemical company plant at Aetna, Ill., and the Aetna Explosive plant at Ishpeming, Michigan, are made in the indictments returned by the federal grand jury. Additional charges alleged the trio sent mail intended to "incite arson, murder and assassination."

The first indictment recited that on August 3 the defendants wrote Smith on stationery of the hotel where Crowley lived. The letter was partly coded. It said "Enclosed find clipping. I am sure they here (believed to refer to the German consulate) would give \$500 for each, and newspaper clippings and dispatches to show. What do you think? Ishpeming, Michigan, and outside Gary, Ind. Let me hear from you. Nothing else new."

The enclosed clipping was a Gary, Indiana, dispatch telling of the increased wages at the Aetna company plant. The proposition about the "clippings to show," is held to mean that Smith was to do the burning job and get "five hundred" when he proved it by dispatches.

The other indictment declares Crowley paid Smith \$250 and expenses to get information concerning the vessels Tal Thymbus and Hazel Dollar at Seattle, intended to carry munitions to Russia. It was alleged von Brincken paid Smith \$545 on August 1 as past compensation. Another count alleged a letter was sent Smith to incite him to burn the Hercules powder plant at Pinole, California.

NEWS SUMMARY

General. Bulgarians and French engage in battle which may be decisive in the Balkan campaign.

Sentiment of army officers favors compulsory plan of Chamberlain.

Local. Federal officers will enforce military bird game laws.

Postmaster Tweedy gives directions for mailing packages.

Drunken Indian finds bed at foot of sleeping women.

Many "Come Backs" in Congress



Among the prominent men who have "broken back" into the legislative body after an absence are "Uncle Joe" Cannon, of Danville, Illinois, and Nicholas Longworth of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Attache is In



BARON VON BRINCKEN.

Von Brincken, attache of the German consulate at San Francisco, has been indicted for alleged participation in munition plots in this country. Advice today state the indictment says letters were found connecting him directly with plots to blow up munition plants.

BASKETBALL SEASON STARTS AT HIGH SCHOOL ON FRIDAY

GIRLS SCHEDULED TO MEET WESTON HIGH SCHOOL ON THE LOCAL FLOOR.

Friday night of this week will see the official beginning of the basketball season for the high school girls when they will meet the Weston high quintet on the local floor.

Although this is the first game of the season, it is expected to be a fast contest. The Weston team has been playing for some time and the town has always been noted for her well developed teams. The team is large but they play a fast and good defensive game.

The local team has but one of last year's letter members out for the indoor game this year, and that is the fast little forward, Alta Metzger. A great deal toward winning Friday's game will depend upon her basket shooting ability. The other members of the team are small but fast and for this reason the game is expected to be hotly contested.

Coach Livingston believes he has the best material to pick a team from that the high school has ever produced and is quite confident of putting a winning team through the coming season.

BULGARIAN SHELLS ARE HURLED INTO GREEK TERRITORY

Bulgars are Also Reported to be Five Miles Within the Grecian Border—Decisive Battle Apparently Has Begun Between Allies and the Teutonic Alliance—French Troops Strongly Entrenched on Greek Soil—Artillery Duel Raging.

ATHENS, Dec. 14.—An artillery battle is raging on the Serbian frontier. Bulgarian shells are falling in Greek territory. There is no damage. Unconfirmed Saloniki reports say the Bulgars are five miles within the Grecian border. The main Anglo-French force is entrenched on Greek soil. The Teutonic pursuit has apparently halted pending a conference though the artillery is active. The allied wounded are pouring into Saloniki.

ATHENS, Dec. 14.—The newspapers announced today that Greece will demobilize 50 per cent of her troops under an agreement with the entente allies. This provides a clear path to Salonika for the retreating allies.

BERLIN, Dec. 14.—(Wireless via Sayville).—Pursuing the French down the Vardar valley, the Bulgarians cut off one group, slaughtering many, according to a Sofia official statement. Among the prisoners taken was a French battalion commander. The pursuit continues. The statement failed to mention the Bulgarian occupation of Lake Doiran and Ghevell. This it is believed, indicates the fast was delayed in transmission.

Sentiment of Army Officers Favors Plan of Chamberlain

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Administration leaders are closely watching national opinion regarding Chamberlain's proposal to raise a citizen army by compulsory service. In many quarters the bill is termed "untimely" and "impolitic." Chamberlain himself holds the same view to a certain extent, but the sentiment of army officers for such a plan led him to propose the measure to permit popular discussion. In that connection it was pointed out a plan may be necessary if a citizen army becomes a fact inasmuch as the war department recently estimated the country can not recruit more than 140,000 volunteers. While Chamberlain is unlikely to force the measure to a roll call he plans to bring it before the military commission of which he is chairman and later to take it to the floor for discussion.

CHAMP HEAVYWEIGHT OF THE PACIFIC COAST FLEET HERE

Henry Bodanski, champion heavyweight of the Pacific coast fleet of the United States navy, arrived today to visit his brother, Ben Bodanski, who is employed at the Hotel Pendleton.

Bodanski is a 220 pounder and six feet one inch in height. He has aspirations of some day breaking into the game in earnest and meeting men like Jess Willard and others in the heavyweight class. He claims title of champion in the navy from Bremerton to San Diego and so far has defeated every man who has stood against him.

Bodanski is a sailor aboard the U. S. S. Colorado. He is enjoying a 30 days' leave of absence, during which time he will spend a few days with his brother here and then go on to Portland and Spokane. His brother is trying to arrange an exhibition match during his stay in Pendleton. Bodanski saw some active service on the west coast of Mexico during the recent trouble there and was detailed to police duty at one of the cities where marines were landed to protect foreigners.

BULLDOGGERS GET TWO OUT OF THREE BOWLING GAMES

The Bulldoggers got the margin on two out of three bowling games with the Forty Niners in the tournament match last evening, taking the first and third. In the final game they made over 1900 pins. Hoover was the bright star of the evening, making high individual score of 342 and high total score, 690, an average of 230 per game. Hays of the Bulldoggers also rolled a strong game. The scores were as follows:

Table with bowling scores for Bulldoggers and Forty Niners. Columns include names and scores for individual games and totals.

Migratory Bird Laws to be Strictly Enforced in State

The federal migratory bird law is to be strictly enforced in Oregon, state laws to the contrary notwithstanding. This announcement was made this morning by E. S. Cattron, district inspector under this law.

Cattron is here, investigating alleged violations of the federal law by local shooters. There has been much misunderstanding locally by reason of the discrepancies existing between the state and federal regulations and because the constitutionality of the migratory bird measure has been attacked and is now pending before the U. S. supreme court.

"I regret very much that the Oregon law does not conform to the government regulations," said Mr. Cattron this morning, "but you understand that federal laws always take precedence over state laws when the two conflict. We must, therefore, insist upon observance of federal regulations."

"We are gathering all the evidence obtainable in every alleged violation of the law and are filing it with the department of justice. Prosecutors, however, are being held in abeyance, pending the rendering of a decision as to the constitutionality of the law. The case was presented to the U. S. supreme court October 18 and while it is possible a decision will be handed down about the time of the Christmas recess it may not be handed down before spring. Therefore all those who are interested might just as well make up their minds to await the decision with patience. Of one thing they can rest assured and that is that if a favorable decision is rendered all violators against whom it is possible to secure evidence either now or later will be prosecuted in the federal courts. Since we have three years after an offense is committed in which to file our suit we will have plenty of time to file our suits against all those who have violated the law since it went into effect."

The strength of a nation lies in its observance of the laws of the nation and sportsmen, above all others, should not set the bad example of acting in defiance of a law."

The two provisions of the law which are of interest locally and which differ from the state regulations are those making a daily shooting period from sunset to sunrise and the one closing the season on ducks and geese January 15. In all other respects the state and federal regulations are identical.