

TO ADVERTISERS

The East Oregonian has the largest bona fide and guaranteed paid circulation of any paper in Oregon, east of Portland and by far the largest circulation in Pendleton of any newspaper.

CITY OFFICIAL PAPER

VOL. 28

DAILY EAST OREGONIAN, PENDLETON, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1916.

WEATHER: Tonight and Thursday fair, colder tonight. Maximum temperature, 41; minimum, 30; rain, 0.10 inches; wind, west, light; waves, 1 to 2 feet.

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

# GERMANY THINKS ENTENTE ACTION IS MERELY BLUFF

### Believes Allies Really Anxious for Peace and is Not Pessimistic Over Continued Fighting Edicts.

(Carl Ackerman.)  
BERLIN, Dec. 20.—Germany regards the entente attitude as a bluff. She believes the allies are really anxious for peace and is not pessimistic despite the London, Petrograd and Paris announcements that the allies are determined to continue fighting. Officials believe the belligerents will not ask the neutrals to start negotiations. The Germans do not welcome American interference. The Lokai Anzeiger said: "If Lloyd George wants to postpone peace until the allies conquer, the war will be eternal." The Vorwarts said: "Lloyd George condemns himself when he says anybody who prolongs the war is criminal."

# LOCAL WOOLGROWERS TO ATTEND MEETING

### Not Less Than Thirty-five Will Be at Convention of National Woolgrowers' Association in Salt Lake on January 10.

Not less than 35 eastern Oregon woolgrowers have signed up to attend the meeting of the National Woolgrowers' Association at Salt Lake on January 10. The session is to consume several days and the local people are to be home on January 15.

The following are listed for the trip from eastern Oregon: Hugh Ranfield, C. A. Minor, J. H. Dobbyn, Dr. W. H. Lytle, William Slusher, T. J. Mahoney, Heppner, John Killeney, Heppner, L. B. Gentry, Heppner, R. F. Wigglesworth, Heppner, David Hynd, Heppner, O. M. Plummer, Portland, K. G. Warner, A. J. Smith, Eugene Noble, Thomas Boylen, Frank Sloan, L. B. McBea, William Polman, Baker, Fred Falconer, Enterprise, H. Addis, Pat Connell, Michael Kenna, Frank Gable, E. L. Hooper, Dan Clark, H. W. Hicks, John Vaughan, Heppner, Jeff Billingsly, Ontario, Frank McKnight, Vale, Ellis Reagin, Harry Anderson, Frank Rothrock, C. C. Berkeley, Hay Creek, J. M. Keeney and J. N. Burgess.

# GONZALES WILL AID U. S. ARMY DESERTERS

MUAREZ, Dec. 20.—General Gonzales, commanding the Carranzista garrison, has declared his intention of helping American army deserters to escape. He is angry because General Bell refused to surrender Colonel Luis Comandran, who fled across the line. Gonzales declares the fugitive stole government funds. He said: "Several times I have assisted in the return of American deserters. I understood it would be reciprocity. Now the opportunity comes and there is no reciprocity. I warn the American commander that hereafter I will give American deserters every facility to escape into the interior."

General Bell said he had no authority to extradite Comandran. The Gonzales statement bitterly assailed Bell.

It is reported that Gonzales wired General Murguia threatening to surrender the entire garrison to Villistas in the event Murguia attempted to supersede him.

# MEACHAM IN GRIP OF HEAVY STORM

(East Oregonian Special.)  
With the snow three feet deep on the level and the storm still in progress, Meacham is experiencing real winter weather. The snow storm was on all day yesterday and continuously through the night as well as this morning today. At 11:30 this morning the storm had abated somewhat but snow was still falling. Though trains were blocked at Kamela owing to a small wreck at that point there has been no track trouble at Meacham.

# GREAT BRITAIN'S WAR COUNCIL NOW SUPREME



PREMIER LLOYD GEORGE, ARTHUR HENDERSON, LORD CURZON, LORD MILNER, LORD BALFOUR.

# SEEK LAW TO PERMIT RAISING THE COUNTY SCHOOL LEVY TO 4 MILLS

A movement has been started among school authorities in the county to secure from the legislature a law to permit the county school levy to be raised from 1 1/2 mills to four mills to the end that district school levies be greatly lowered or eliminated.

Principal John B. Washburn of the Milton-Freewater schools is at the head of the movement and is sending out circular letters to all his patrons asking that they join in the request to the legislature. Failing to secure action from this body, the proposal is made that the matter be voted upon direct by the people of the county not later than 1918.

Mr. Washburn points out that the taxpayers of his district could be saved 7 1/2 mills under the new system. The heavy district taxes are in the large centers of population, whereas some of the most valuable property lying in outlying communities is hardly taxed at all for the support of the schools. The 4-mill county levy would distribute the tax more equitably, he points out.

The following copy of his circular gives a clear idea of the subject. To the Voters and Taxpayers of District No. 31.

Do you really want to lower taxes? Will you give your active support to a committee to reduce your school tax 7 1/2 mills?  
You now pay 10 mills district school tax plus 1 1/2 mills county school tax. Most of our school money is raised by district taxation. We want to change the system and raise most of it by county taxation. The county as a whole should pay for its schools. County taxation distributes the burden evenly. A 4-mill county school tax would support all the schools of the county. You would pay 4 mills instead of your present 11 1/2 mills district and county tax.

Our high tax is not due to our spending too much money for schools. Washington, California and thirteen other states spend more per child than does Oregon. And many districts in Oregon spend more per child than does our district. There are only a few high schools in Oregon which spend less per pupil than does ours. What we need is a fair distribution of the tax burden.  
Last year half the districts in Umatilla county paid 2 mills or less. Six had no school tax at all. The whole burden of educating the children of the county falls upon a few heavily taxed districts. Property owners of the county bring their children to

# MACEDONIA IS MOST ACTIVE BATTLE FRONT

### Heavy Artillery and Cannonading North of Verdun With Flank Fighting in Dobrudja.

# ALLIES SEIZED MUCH MAIL

### Estimated That Over 47,000 Sacks Enroute to and From Germany Were Taken—Black Lists Alleged to Have Been Made From Information Gained.

PARIS, Dec. 20.—It is announced that there is great artillery and cannonading north of Verdun in the Chambrettes farm regions north of Verdun.

PETROGRAD, Dec. 20.—It is announced the Russian-Romanians repulsed attacks on the left bank of the Danube near Parlatia. There is heavy fighting at Dobrudja and intense fighting on the Macedonian front. The enemy retreated southward of Brody following a half hour bombardment.

BERLIN, Dec. 20.—(via Sayville)—It is announced Russian attacks on the east bank of the Golden Bistritz failed. Artillery is lively on the Macedonian front. There are isolated patrol clashes and cannonading on the western front.

Newspapers declared the French General Berthelot commanding the Roumanian allied armies had asked a recall. The majority of British officers attached to the Roumanian general staff have already started Englandward.

The press bureau estimated the British and French have seized twenty four thousand two hundred sacks of mail from Germany and twenty three thousand eight hundred enroute to Germany, between December 1915 and last September 30. This included much United States mail.

The press bureau concludes that the French and British censors read all the letters permitted to pass and announces the "reading gave a clear insight into the trade relations of the United States and South American citizens with Germany, and made possible the establishment of the black list and other measures."

# SOPHOMORE PLAY IS MUCH ENJOYED

Owing to the heavy fall of rain and snow last evening, a small crowd witnessed the production of "The Sophomore" at the high school auditorium, but those attending were well repaid for their trouble. The production was a good one, there being much comedy displayed throughout and every part being well taken.

The story, originally that of a college town, was made over to fit the local high school. Local characterizations were brought in, adding much to the interest of the play.

Earl Snyder, playing the part of a star football player and hero of the school, played his part to perfection and won the admiration of the audience. Also Frank Enbysk, playing the part of football manager, brought down the house by his continual mock threats and comic action.

The parts of Ralph Hargett as football captain, Reta Ferguson and Helen Meengs as town gossips, Dewey Gervais as the school dude and Ardis Callison as a local football enthusiast, were also well taken.

The production, taken as a whole, can be classed as one of the best plays ever offered by the high school. Much credit must be given the characters and teachers for their untiring efforts in the practical and production.

# BAKER HIGH SCHOOL BOYS START TROUBLE

BAKER, Dec. 20.—Police Chief Jackson is investigating a disturbance at the high school last night, when boys disturbed a teachers party. Janitor A. D. Beasley fired a shotgun, dispersing the boys. School Superintendent Strange pursued the boys but was unable to identify any. It is believed that possibly one was slightly injured.

# CHARITIES NAME OLD BOARD WITH ONE EXCEPTION

### Mrs. W. S. Badley Elected as Trustee in Place of J. W. Maloney Who Will Be Absent From City.

Practically the entire board of officers and trustees of the Associated Charities was reelected yesterday afternoon at the annual meeting. The only change was the election of Mrs. W. S. Badley as a trustee to succeed J. W. Maloney, who will be absent from the city all winter.

The following are the officers and trustees for the next year: Judge C. H. Marsh, president; J. C. Woodworth, vice president; Mrs. George Iturg, secretary; H. G. Blydenstein, treasurer; Judge Marsh, Messrs. Blydenstein, Woodworth, John W. Dyer and W. W. Harrah and Mrs. A. F. May, Mrs. E. C. Anibal, Mrs. W. S. Badley and Mrs. George W. Rugs, trustees.

The report of the association for the fiscal year ending Dec. 1, shows \$1212.11 spent directly and \$1145 spent under the supervision of the association. The following is the itemized report:

Provision supplied	\$ 164.50
Fuel purchased	185.20
Shoes and Clothing	327.70
Railroad Tickets	200.07
Rent	10.00
Agents' Salary	230.00
Caring for Children	141.00
Incidentals	24.60
Total expense	\$1212.11
Number of visits made by agent	92
The following expenditures were under the supervision of the Associated Charities:	
Caring for elderly ladies	\$ 545.00
Health officers	600.00
Cash contributions received during year:	
Lodges	325.00
Personal contributions	1055.25
Total	\$1380.25
Cash on hand, year ending Dec. 1, 1916	\$ 67.17
The Associated Charities' aim is to assist all worthy poor and distressed, provide employment when expedient and otherwise aid them in such ways as shall be deemed judicious.	
The aim also is to make itself the agency through which the benevolent bodies may do their charity work and in this way avoid duplications.	

# INTIMATES MILITIA IS KEPT ON BORDER FOR PURPOSE OF CAUSING ITS DISINTEGRATION

### P. H. S. CADET CORP TO HAVE PART IN THE XMAS PROGRAM

One of the features of the Municipal Christmas celebration here on Saturday evening will be the first appearance of the Pendleton high school cadet corps. The full corps, 80 strong, will drill on the streets at the celebration center, corner Main and Alta streets, before the distribution of presents from the tree.

The big Christmas choir is rehearsing for the song program in connection with the celebration and for the singing of Christmas carols. The gift committee has popcorn balls and candy ready for every child in the city and private information has been received from Santa Claus stating that he will arrive on schedule time behind his reindeer team.

# LOWER TONE IN WHEAT MARKETS

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—(Special to the East Oregonian.)—Range of prices today:

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	\$1.52 1/2	1.55 1/2	1.53	1.53
May	\$1.65	1.67	1.61 1/2	1.62

# SMALLPOX FAILS TO SCARE THUGS

PORTLAND, Dec. 20.—Disregarding smallpox quarantine signs two burglars entered M. S. Miller's home, held up Mrs. Miller with a revolver and stole two hundred dollars worth of diamonds. Miller, his wife and two children are recovering from an attack of smallpox.

# General Scott Under Cross Examination Says Continued Police Duty Service Would Break Up System.

# MAKES SWEEPING CRITICISM

Urges Immediate Big Increase of the General Staff; Present Number Declared Pitifully Inadequate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Representative Anthony of Kansas, in cross examining General Hugh Scott, intimated the militia was kept on the border for police duty for the purpose of causing disintegration. The charge was made before the house military affairs committee.

He asked, "Wouldn't such an onerous service cause a disintegration of the volunteer force?"

"Yes." "If it was planned to cause the downfall of the militia system, could a better means be devised?"

Scott replied: "The border guard is in the country's service for the protection of lives." Despite a terrific grilling, Scott remained firm in his sweeping denunciation of the militia system. He said: "It is difficult to criticize the militia system too severely. There is nothing to indicate the recent reorganization has improved the old militia system. It has only given one month's training."

"Although the European war is now in its third year, the United States is unable to assimilate the military lesson. Our military observers in every war zone have forwarded valuable information. The United States army possesses insufficient officers to study data."

He urged an immediate big increase of the general staff and said the present staff was pitifully inadequate.

# STORM AT SEA KILLS SEVEN

HALIFAX, December 20.—Captain Patterson and six sailors of the American schooner William Magoon are believed to have perished. The ship disappeared in a storm on the Atlantic last week. Two bodies stranded here. The schooner was three masted of four hundred and five tons.

# EMPLOYEES WILL GET FINE XMAS CHECKS

Local Telephone and Telegraph Workers to Draw Generous Gifts in Shape of Salary Bonus.

Employees of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co. in this city will receive a Christmas gift from the company in the shape of a generous salary bonus.

Manager Mabie was this morning notified that the company officials had authorized him to present all employees of the company, who have been in the service a year or more and who draw less than \$400 a year, with a check equivalent to three weeks' salary. Employees who have been in the service between three months and a year will get a two-week salary bonus. Employees who draw over \$400 a year will receive a bonus but not proportionately as large as the smaller employees.

Manager Mabie estimates that the company's orders will affect 90 per cent of the local employees. Operators who draw \$3.40 weekly and who have been in the service a year will get a check for more than \$25. Two years ago the company gave its employees free sick and death benefits and last year gave its employees the privilege of purchasing P. T. & T. stock at par.

Manager Dalrymple of the Western Union also received word yesterday of a profit-sharing Christmas for employees of that company. To all receiving less than \$1200 a year, a check equivalent to seven per cent of the annual salary will be given and those whose salary is above \$1200 will get a six per cent bonus.

# WOMEN ACT AS SIGNALMEN IN ENGLAND



MRS. FERBER IN SIGNAL BOX

Among the many occupations of a soldier doing duty as a signalman. Women also have taken many positions as street car conductors and are doing much of the work in the man. This photograph shows the wife of English ammunition factories.