

TO ADVERTISERS

The East Oregonian has the largest bona fide 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, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1917.

NO. 9056



WEATHER

Tonight and Wednesday fair. Weather Daily Maximum 56; minimum 40; wind, west light; waves, light.

COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

GERMAN LINES MELT BEFORE BRITISH GUNS

Retreat to Arras Breaking Many War Records; English Continue Steady Pursuit.

BAPAUME'S FALL IMMINENT

Thousands of Soldiers and Civilians Work feverishly to Prepare German Defenses; City is Reported to Be Modern Gibraltar

(W. P. SIMMS.) WITH BRITISH, Feb. 27.—The German retreat is breaking many war records. It is believed they will continue their retreat to Arras and Combraine. The British are rapidly pursuing them and steadily pressing the advance toward Bapaume. German rearwards and British scouts are constantly fighting.

The Germans mounted heavy guns on railway tracks. They offer a stiff resistance, but quickly flee at the psychological moment. The Germans dynamited their strongest defenses.

New Line Established. The British established a new line far beyond the old Torton first line. It is learned thousands of soldiers and civilians are working preparing the German defenses at Arras and Cambrai. It is reported the Germans have made Bapaume a modern Gibraltar. They plan to make their strongest stand there.

The Germans have built many modern fortresses within Bapaume. Explosions are heard within the city recently caused by the Germans. They may be dynamiting their own defenses lest they fall into British hands.

Clear weather enabled the patrols to harass the retreaters and permitted torpeding activity. The British forward sweep extends from south of Grandcourt to La Transloy. Grandcourt is retreating.

Prisoners called the retreat an unpleasant job. They said the British guns made the roads impossible day and night. The German retreat is among the world war's greatest moves. It has deep significance.

LA FOLLETTE STARTS ONE MAN FIGHT AGAINST MAMMOTH NAVAL BILL

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—La Follette started a one man filibuster against the administration's half billion dollar naval bill. The measure is facing defeat. It is the largest single national defense bill ever framed.

FOREIGN COMMITTEE OF HOUSE DIVIDED OVER REQUEST OF PRESIDENT

Fails to Report Flood Bill Giving Wilson Authority; Several Members Offer Amendments.

DEMOCRATS PROBABLY WIN

Two Republicans Likely to Join Democrats and One Democrat May Go to Republicans.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—The house foreign committee late this afternoon plans to favorably report the Flood bill empowering the president to arm merchantmen. It will eliminate the provision empowering Wilson to use "other instrumentalities" besides arming ships. The members suggested the Laconia sinking may alter the whole situation. Wilson may ask fuller authority.

(Carl Groat.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—The house foreign committee has split over President Wilson's request for power to protect Americans. It failed to report the Flood bill giving the president authority. Several members attempted to inject amendments. The committee voted to submit the amendment for Wilson's consideration this afternoon. It recesses at four o'clock.

Arming Merchant Ships Fought.

The minority fought against empowering the president to arm American ships carrying munitions. The senate foreign committee minority also raised some objection. No decision was reached.

W. L. THOMPSON IN LINE FOR APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER OF THE STATE HIGHWAY BOARD

W. L. Thompson, president of the American National Bank of this city, will be the eastern Oregon member of the state highway commission if influential endorsements now being sent to Governor Withycombe are given heed, as is believed will be the case. While Mr. Thompson was in the east with the Pendleton party that attended the 25th annual convention, a quiet move was started to have the Pendleton man named upon the commission. The first official action on the subject was taken at the Dalles on February 23 when representatives from five counties east of the mountains took action requesting the appointment of Mr. Thompson from Governor Withycombe.

House Committee Chairman Flood made an appointment to meet Wilson. The president will probably inform Flood of the Laconia developments and urge the passage of the resolution giving him full powers to act.

The minority did not object to arming food ships. They declared the passage of a resolution empowering the president to use "other instrumentalities" besides arming merchantmen will give Wilson war making power. They said such an act was "unthinkable."

Democrats Will Win. Several members objected to limiting submarine and said such policy would react against the United States in event America might desire to use her own submarines.

Not all minority members joined in fighting the measure. It appeared likely two republicans will join the democrats and possibly one democrat may join the republicans. After adjournment the members said the democrats would probably eventually win. The vote is not near yet.

Representative Miller offered an amendment prohibiting the president using any instrumentalities except guns, gunners and money. He feared Wilson might use the army and navy. Gardner demanded an amendment flatly directing the president to arm merchantmen immediately.

BIDS FOR GUNS TOMORROW.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—The navy department tomorrow opens the bids for twenty four hundred guns of one pound caliber, three hundred and fifty guns of three inches and several four and five inch ones. These guns are most effective against submarines.

TWO BRITISH SHIPS SUNK.

LONDON, Feb. 27.—The British steamers Headley and Arise were sunk yesterday. The Headley was a steel screw of forty nine hundred tons, registered from London. The Arise was a steel screw of three thousand tons, registered from West Hartlepool.

STUCK TO POSTS UNTIL "S.O.S." WAS HEARD BY SHIP

QUEENSTOWN, Feb. 27.—Wireless Operators Donnan and Taylor are the heroes of the Laconia. They remained in the wireless rooms calling S. O. S. until a British warship responded. Then they jumped overboard. They were the last to leave the ship. Captain Irvine's lifeboat rescued both. All survivors stories unitedly eulogized the splendid discipline of the officers and crew. The vessel started sinking after the first explosion. It was pitch dark. The deck slipped sharply. There was a second terrific explosion while the lifeboats were being lowered. Captain Irvine was the last to leave the ship except the wireless operators. There was considerable difficulty in launching the eight lifeboats on account of darkness. The heavy sea and the sinking vessel's sharp list. One was swamped. It is believed the explosion caused the most casualties.

LACONIA CASE RESTS SOLELY WITH WILSON

President Must Make Decision in Most Critical Situation Since the Lusitania; Investigation Unnecessary.

NO WAR DECLARATION NOW

Officials Believe Chief Executive Will First Endeavor to Protect American Interests Through Arming Ships.

(ALBERT J. BENDER.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—Following a conference between President Wilson and Lansing administration representatives declared high officials believed the Laconia was a "clear out case" and strongly intimated the administration considers the sinking an overt act. No investigation is necessary. The official cables confirmed the press versions. The case is entirely in Wilson's hands. It is flatly stated Wilson must make the decision since the Lusitania.

NO WAR DECLARATION NOW

Officials do not expect a declaration of war now. They believe the president will first endeavor to protect American interests through arming ships. Home officials flatly declared the Laconia sinking was a "clear out case."

The depositions of Officers J. D. McCorkle and Sabin of Portland, who examined her, were read. They were to the effect that one of the vertebral discs had been injured as well as one leg. X-ray plates were introduced, one on particular showing clearly one of the vertebrae compressed into a wedge shape and slightly chipped. A replica of a spinal column was also introduced as an exhibit. Supt. W. D. McNary of the Eastern Oregon State Hospital testified as to the results to the nervous system that such an injury as indicated by the X-ray, would be apt to produce. Dr. E. O. Parker is to be called this afternoon to testify as to the injuries.

Robert Livermore testified to seeing the false front of the T. P. W. job before the accident and stated that he considered it so unsafe because of the wind that he reported it to Ralph Hassell, an employe of the store. Hassell, he stated, reported the matter to A. J. Gibson, one of the contractors. Livermore, Mrs. Donna, Mrs. Ella, Mrs. R. E. Porter, Mrs. Katie Dunn and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth McKee testified that the wind was not unusual.

Very little of the testimony of J. W. Horn and Mr. West, carpenter, got into the case by reason of objections. Charles Lane, J. L. Schell and A. C. Frazier were nearby when the accident occurred and testified as to what they saw. Volney Bybee testified to seeing the structure swaying in the wind and also to having seen it after it fell.

The accident occurred on Sunday, May 21, 1916.

TWO AMERICAN WOMEN AMONG LACONIA VICTIMS

HIGH DAMAGE SUIT IS PROVING TO BE HARD FOUGHT FIGHT

Plaintiff Has Already Introduced Testimony of Over Twenty Witnesses and Has Yet More.

The Hoch damage suit, on trial in the circuit court, is proving a hard fought legal battle, the eight lawyers involved contesting every inch of the way. It is very probable that when the plaintiff rests his case there will be a number of nice legal questions argued before the case is continued. The plaintiff has already introduced the testimony of over twenty witnesses and has yet more. The defendants may have as many and it would be futile to hazard a guess as to when the case will go to the jury. A rather large audience is attending the trial today.

After having established the fact that Miss Hoch was caught under a false store front blown down during a wind storm, the lawyers for the plaintiff undertook to prove that she sustained serious and more or less permanent injuries. Aside from the fractured ankle, the attorneys are seeking to show that she suffered an injury to the spinal column which has impaired her nervous system and certain organic functions.

The depositions of Officers J. D. McCorkle and Sabin of Portland, who examined her, were read. They were to the effect that one of the vertebral discs had been injured as well as one leg. X-ray plates were introduced, one on particular showing clearly one of the vertebrae compressed into a wedge shape and slightly chipped. A replica of a spinal column was also introduced as an exhibit. Supt. W. D. McNary of the Eastern Oregon State Hospital testified as to the results to the nervous system that such an injury as indicated by the X-ray, would be apt to produce. Dr. E. O. Parker is to be called this afternoon to testify as to the injuries.

Robert Livermore testified to seeing the false front of the T. P. W. job before the accident and stated that he considered it so unsafe because of the wind that he reported it to Ralph Hassell, an employe of the store. Hassell, he stated, reported the matter to A. J. Gibson, one of the contractors. Livermore, Mrs. Donna, Mrs. Ella, Mrs. R. E. Porter, Mrs. Katie Dunn and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth McKee testified that the wind was not unusual.

Very little of the testimony of J. W. Horn and Mr. West, carpenter, got into the case by reason of objections. Charles Lane, J. L. Schell and A. C. Frazier were nearby when the accident occurred and testified as to what they saw. Volney Bybee testified to seeing the structure swaying in the wind and also to having seen it after it fell.

The accident occurred on Sunday, May 21, 1916.

CONSUL FROST CABLES POSITIVE CONFIRMATION OF DEATHS OF MRS. MARY HOY AND DAUGHTER; THIRTEEN DEAD TOTAL LIST OF CASUALTIES SO FAR; SIX AMERICAN SAILORS BELIEVED TO HAVE PERISHED WITH CREW; VESSEL SANK IN FORTY-FIVE MINUTES, TWO SHELLS BEING FIRED; GIGANTIC SWELLS SCATTER LIFE BOATS.

(E. L. KEEN.)

LONDON, Feb. 27.—Consul Frost cabled that the deaths of the American women, Mrs. Mary Hoy and Elizabeth Hoy, was positively confirmed. He added that Cedric B. Ivatt, probably an American, was apparently lost. Four other Americans were saved. The women died of exposure in an open boat after the torpedoing. They were buried at sea. The submarine commander approached the lifeboats following the sinking and inquired concerning the cargo, but did not attempt to aid the survivors.

TOTAL DEAD THIRTEEN.

The total dead is 13. Two hundred and sixty-seven were landed at Queenstown, fourteen reached Hantey. Survivors reported that two torpedoes hit the Laconia. Doctor Hawke of San Francisco, said the lights were extinguished immediately. Admirable discipline prevailed.

The ship sank in forty minutes. The Germans punched the second torpedo in twenty minutes after the first. The Laconia fired rockets and worked her wireless until the last. Swells twelve feet high scattered the boats.

YOUNG HOY DEMANDS REVENGE

Austin Hoy cabled President Wilson, demanding that the United States avenge his mother's and sister's deaths on the Laconia. He requested Wilson to permit him to be the first volunteer in event the United States called for volunteers. Otherwise he expects to enlist in the British army. He cabled his Chicago employers announcing he had taken an "indefinite leave of absence." He said he must carry out his plans to avenge the deaths.

FATHER IS GRIEF STRUCKEN.

Doctor Albert Harris Hoy was grief-stricken while telephoning the United Press regarding the deaths of his wife and daughter and collapsed.

London newspapers unanimously believed the Laconia a "second Lusitania." They declared the torpedoing constituted an overt act. The Chronicle said: "If this torpedoing is ignored or condoned the American government must admit that Germany has a right to prohibit citizens going to England under penalty of death." The dispatches said many women and children were among the passengers. They drifted in open boats for many hours.

14 SURVIVORS AT BANTHY.

QUEENSTOWN, Feb. 27.—Fourteen Laconia survivors entered Bantny carrying eight corpses who died of exposure in open boats. Fifteen American negroes were in the crew. Six of the survivors were sent to the hospital. One will probably die.

TAFT REPORTS FOR MILITARY DUTY



WILLIAM TAFT

NEW HAVEN, Feb. 27.—Former President William Howard Taft was the first citizen of New Haven to enroll under Governor Holcomb's military census plan. The former president, when asked if he could ride a horse in case of war, stated that he could, but that he would be "sorry for the horse."

SIX U. S. SAILORS LOST. NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—The Consular line believes six American Laconia sailors perished. Twenty-one men were listed. Consul Frost reported that fifteen were saved.

NEGRO SEAMAN PERISHED.

QUEENSTOWN, Feb. 27.—Consul Frost cabled the state department that Thomas Coffee, an American negro Laconia seaman, perished. He lived at Baltimore.

COMMERCIAL CLUB BANQUET MARCH 8

Will Be in Honor of St. Paul Excursionists and Umatilla County Legislative Delegation.

Thursday, March 8, has been set as the date for the reception and banquet in honor of the St. Paul excursionists and the Umatilla county legislative delegation. The special committee appointed by the Commercial association to arrange for the occasion had about completed plans. Invitations will be mailed soon to all members of the association as well as to many others. The banquet will be in the nature of a community affair and anyone may reserve a seat by applying to Secretary Cranston.

The reception and banquet will be held in the Eagle-Woodman hall, the reception preceding the banquet. Every man will be expected to bring a lady. The reception will be in charge of A. R. Ilbert, the banquet of S. R. Thompson and the program during the banquet will be in charge of Rev. J. E. Snyder. The banquet will start promptly at 8:30. The ladies of the Presbyterian church have agreed to serve the banquet.

The affair is not only a recognition to the men and women who advertised Pendleton at the mid-winter carnival and to the men who served this county in the recent legislature but it will be a get-together occasion for Pendleton people, and every citizen is extended a cordial invitation.

IDENTITY OF TRAIN VICTIM ESTABLISHED

Little Doubt But That Man Killed Beneath Wheels of No. 5 Yesterday Was Phillip Millen.

There seems little doubt today as to the identity of the young man who met such a tragic death under the wheels of No. 5 near Kamela yesterday morning. That he was Phillip Millen seems very probable but positive confirmation is yet lacking. However, Coroner Brown is expecting a wire at any time verifying his belief.

Having found a book in his pocket and a postal card bearing the name of Phillip Millen, the coroner yesterday wired to Oscar Millen of Salem, the writer of the postal. He received a telegram advising him to notify Mrs. C. Johnson, 75 East 56th St., New York, N. Y., for further information. The address was the same as that below his name in the book. A night letter was sent to Mrs. Johnson but no reply has yet been received. It is possible that she herself is coming on the evening train.

Having seen in the Portland papers that the watchman bore the initials J. E. A. Silversmith, Oregon, A. C. Anderson of Portland wired that it might be his brother, Joseph Arthur Anderson of Silverton, who has been in Delaplace, N. D. for the past year. The description of the young man answers that of a man seen the other day at Mesham and who told a story of having deserted from the Canadian army.

Increased was about 28 years old, light complexion and had some reddish hair which will aid in his identification.

PLENTY OF COAL IN PENDLETON NO DANGER OF FUEL SHORTAGE

Although Local Dealers Are at Present Delivering Only Half of Orders New Shipments Will Arrive in Day or Two.

Pendleton is in no danger of a coal shortage, such as face La Grande, Baker and other cities and towns of the northwest. Local dealers declare Pendleton has been better insured against a fuel famine this year than any other places in the northwest and they feel satisfied that they have made ample provisions to satisfy all wants.

Just at present some of the dealers are delivering only one-half or one-quarter of orders received because the blockade of the last week has delayed the arrival of their coal shipments. However, the shipments are expected within the next day or two and will relieve the temporary shortage.

The city of La Grande yesterday had but a single carload of coal, two of the three dealers there being entirely out. Saturday a ton of coal was shipped by express to La Grande from this city. Baker has been in almost as bad condition and even Utah towns have been suffering. Strikes and railroad blockades have played their part in producing the situation.

The U. W. R. & N. company has 2500 tons of coal in eight challing stations along this division—sufficient to last 48 hours. Nine hundred tons of this coal are in La Grande. The railroad company gets its coal from Wyoming. No shipments are in sight.

way such as at Kamela. At present the company is not provided for all burning but will take immediate steps to be ready. Crude oil comes from California and there are no weather conditions to impair delivery.

NEW FRENCH INVENTION BOTHERS TEUTONS



FRENCH BARBED WIRE CUTTER. The above photograph shows the new French wire cutter used by the army in the Somme district. The soldier enters the machine and pushes it ahead of him until he reaches the barbed-wire entanglements. Inside the car are two huge clips which can be seen at the front. These clips cut through the wire and allow a passageway for the advancing French infantry to get through.

19 KILLED IN TRAIN WRECK

ALTOONA, Feb. 27.—Nineteen passengers were killed when a fast freight collided with the Pennsylvania railroad's mechanical express. All the victims occupied one Pullman. Chester A. Hinds, a former Pennsylvania footballer, is believed among the dead, but mangled bodies were unidentified.

MUNITIONS EXPLOSION KILLED 200 IN PARIS SAYS BERLIN REPORT

BERLIN, Feb. 27.—(via Sayville)—The semi-official press agency declared a "terrible munitions explosion occurred in Paris February 2. Eighty thousand tons of ammunition were destroyed. Two hundred were killed and seven hundred wounded."