

# Grants Pass Daily Courier

VOL. IX, No. 103

GRANTS PASS, JOSEPHINE COUNTY, OREGON, SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1919.

WHOLE NUMBER 2610.

## THE MYSTERY MEETING WAS GREAT AFFAIR

MANY CAME THROUGH CURIOSITY TO ATTEND SMOKER AT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

### SIGN READ "FOR MEN ONLY"

Over Hundred Business Men and Ranchers Enjoy Cards, Witty Speeches and Refreshments

It happened! The great "mystery meeting" at the Chamber of Commerce rooms was staged on schedule time last night. Over a hundred business men and prominent ranchers, willing to go up against anything once, braved the unknown and came streaming to the designated spot.

It had been previously announced that the meeting was to be a smoker, and for men only. And such a smoker! As the curious crowd filed slowly through the doors into the main room they saw many card tables nicely arranged with chairs thereby, cards on the board, and several boxes of fine cigars opened up for immediate use. Then the gas attack began. Those cigars went like hot cakes on a cold morn and the smoke rolled high and thick. Those not initiated to the "filthy weed" sought shelter along the baseboard or near windows and stood bravely before the deadly clouds—as long as flesh and blood could be expected to stand such an onslaught—then the inevitable happened. They remembered that they had promised not to stay out late and groggily made their way to the doors. They were fine fellows, but not used to the fumes from 42 centimeters. No rattle of silken skirts disconcerted the care-free husbands as they wrapped their legs around the chair rungs and blew smoke into each other's faces.

Card playing was indulged in until about 10:30, when Geo. C. Sablin, acting as chairman during the absence of President F. S. Bramwell, rapped for order and cautiously divulged the purpose of the meeting. Summed up briefly it was this: The membership of the Chamber of Commerce has dwindled to a point where sufficient recruits cannot be assembled for a successful campaign to further the business and social interests of Grants Pass and a campaign is now on to augment that membership.

Many new faces were present and a number of the public spirited were called upon for their opinion in regard to keeping the Chamber of Commerce in existence. All three banks of the city were represented. The speeches were brief, to the point, and right from the shoulder, and the unanimous opinion was that a city without a chamber of commerce or commercial club, or a business men's organization of some kind was, indeed, in a sorry plight.

At the close of the speaking—and by this time the atmosphere had greatly cleared—Al J. Martineau, proprietor of the Josephine hotel, arose while membership cards were being passed out. He stated that every old member of the chamber

(Continued on page Four)

## SEATTLE STRIKERS WAVER IN DECISION

Seattle, Mar. 8.—Results of the unions' votes will be announced tonight. The unofficial report that the engineers' union voted to continue the strike caused surprise.

Tacoma, Wash., Mar. 8.—Developments here indicate that the unions will vote to return to work.

## MAKES GREAT GIFT OREGON COLLEGE

Portland Capitalist Gives 26 Registered Guernsey Cattle, Valued at \$10,000 to the O. A. C.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Mar. 8.—A herd of 26 registered Guernsey cattle has been given the college by W. B. Ayer of Portland, former federal food administrator for Oregon, and owner of the Foothill farm at Carlton. The college herd is now one of the largest among those maintained by agricultural colleges of the country—100 head. The value of the gift is estimated at between \$7,500 and \$10,000, but to the state it is expected it will be worth many times that amount.

"The college is most appreciative of this splendid gift by Mr. Ayer," said President W. J. Kerr. "The cows include a number of the best Guerneys on the Pacific coast. They are a valuable addition to the college herds. It is the plan of the dairy department to have a herd of 15 cows of each important breed.

"Fifteen of the best Guerneys included in the gift by Mr. Ayer will be kept at the college as representatives of that breed. Eleven will be loaned temporarily to the branch experiment station at Astoria for the purpose of establishing purebred Guerneys in that district. Heretofore, only grade cattle have been demonstrated in that part of the state. The introduction of purebred Guerneys will be of great value in the development of the dairy industry in that section."

### READY TO STRIKE AT AN HOUR'S NOTICE

Portland, Mar. 8.—Oregon electrical workers and telegraph and telephone operators and linemen are ready to strike at an hour's notice from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. They demand recognition of the unions by Postmaster Burleson, and also higher wages.

## BIG SALE OF QUARTZ CLAIMS IN DEL NORTE

What purports to be the largest and most significant mining deal ever staged in Del Norte county, says the Crescent City Tripartite, centers around the sale by the Del Norte Claim Holders association, of 89 quartz claims, in the Preston Peak district, to the Del Norte Mining corporation, presumably a holding company composed of former members of the Del Norte Claim Holders' association and the interests represented by A. C. Ross, who is planning railroad construction out of Crescent City to tap that region.

The papers were presented this week for record at the courthouse by Rubens, Fischer, Mosser and Barnum, a Chicago firm of lawyers. The amount involved was not made known, but the deal called for an outlay of \$125 worth of internal revenue stamps to make it valid.

It has been generally known for some time that the Ross interests were contemplating a location for a profitable division point on the "over the mountains" route, also that the railroad was to be merely a by-product of the greater operations and developments of these people. And with this in mind, it becomes apparent that the opening of this gigantic mining field will offer the proper location for a new townsite, division point, and fertile field for large investments.

There were 205 names on the list of grantors attached to the deeds as recorded here, and among them the holders of the present townsite of Waldo, Ore.

## SUPREME COUNCIL WILL SETTLE SHIP PROBLEM

American Delegates Believe Germany Entitled to Food Supply—Fighting Dying Out In Berlin—Ukrainians Bomb the Poles—Italy to Raise Blockade

Paris, March 8.—The supreme council today expected to settle the difficulty over German merchant ships by arranging for food supplies asked by Germany, which the American delegation regarded as a part of the armistice pledge to Germany.

Berlin, Mar. 8.—The general strike is reported to have been called off. The labor federation recommended that the workmen return to their work today.

There was sharp fighting yesterday around police headquarters. Government troops finally suppressed the armed revolt in the city and are protecting the workmen. Fighting has ceased in the center of the city, but continues in the suburbs.

The government troops suffered slight losses and took many prisoners. To relieve the garrison at head-

quarters the government troops turned heavy artillery against the houses nearby and three shells hit the house used as insurgent headquarters, scattering the occupants in all directions. Gas was used effectively in scattering the strikers.

Lemberg, Mar. 8.—Despite the fact that fighting between the Poles and Ukrainians, with the latter bombing the city, there are still hopes that an armistice can be arranged. There has been considerable loss of life and destruction of property. About 200 shells daily fell in Lemberg.

Paris, Mar. 8.—The Italians have allowed their differences with the Jugo-Slavs to be settled. The supreme council has ordered Italy's food blockade to be raised immediately.

## THERE WAS NO HEAD TO THE AFFAIR AND NO TAIL TO THE PROCEEDINGS

There was no head and there was no tail to the social gathering at the Grants Pass Chamber of Commerce last night. It is rumored that this was the plan outlined by the mysterious committee who arranged it. Nobody seems to know who staged the affair, but 100 of the liveliest men in Grants Pass were there and if there were any who didn't enjoy themselves they were good actors, for an expert physiognomist would have been unable to detect any pained expressions. "Five hundred," "whist," "somerset," or any other game, according to the fancy of the players were indulged in and some few continually chewed gum or smoked and visited, presumably, finding some good qualities in his neighbor, which before he had not realized.

Then came some common sense, short and snappy talks on the value of a commercial club organization, from six or eight citizens, following which all gathered about the big table and helped themselves from a variety of sandwiches and coffee or cocoa. The applications for membership left in the secretary's hands was very gratifying to those already members and who have been during the days of war, paying their dues and marking time, as to the usual activities of a chamber of commerce, and glad that the club was able to turn its attention during the critical period of the war to aiding in the war program. No intelligent thinking person familiar with the situation could question the fact that this organized body was a prime factor in our success in helping to "win the war."

The order of the day now, is, reconstruction and improved construction. The "Forward March" has been given to every American citizen and each now has his duty to perform, just as truly as during the days of the war. This duty concerns your town and community—pacifists and objectors were undesirable while we were at war, they are so now. A good investment for the community would be as the speaker suggested, to pay their fare out of town—the greater the mileage the better the bargain.

Do you know a progressive church without a preacher; a good band

with no leader; or school that has no teacher? Course you don't and no more a live town without a good commercial club. Far fetched you say? Make a few careful inquiries and you will probably change your mind.

The future growth and prosperity of Grants Pass and Josephine county is in the hands of its citizens. If we insist on convincing ourselves that we are outside of the limitations of "Gods Country," this is just about what it will be and we can as easily gain access to that territory by the opposite conviction.

Some day when you feel particularly grumpy go down the street and interview the most confirmed pessimist you know (unfortunately you will be able to find one of sufficient confirmation within the city) talk with him a few minutes and then take note of your mental condition. Cross the street and look up a first class optimist (thank the Lord we have them too) listen to him and observe the improvement. Comparable to the howling of a coyote and the song of a robin. If the effect of the latter is of more benefit to the individual, it is just as certainly true of a town or city, and its effect in proportion to the number of its citizens who are always looking at the dark side of life in comparison to those who readily see the bright side.

At a called meeting of the trustees and membership committee of the Chamber of Commerce this morning, it was decided to waive the regular entrance fee of \$5 until the close of the annual business meeting and election of officers to be held Monday evening. This means that those who desire to join the club will be expected to pay only the fee of \$1 which also includes the dues for March. This privilege will absolutely close at the time mentioned, so it is urged that all such get in their application without delay. Refund will be made to those who paid the \$5 entrance fee last night.

The dinner next week will be served at 6:30 p. m. in place of the noon hour and following it the annual meeting.

COMMITTEE OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

## MILLIONS FOR USE ON FOREST ROADS

Greater Portion of \$9,000,000 to Be Given Highway Commissions for Federal Aid Projects

Portland, Mar. 8.—The development of the national forest road systems in Oregon and Washington is given great impetus by the terms of the post office appropriation act, which the president has just signed. Besides increasing by \$200,000,000 the total fund available under the federal aid roads act, the new law makes available for expenditure by the secretary of agriculture \$9,000,000 for roads and trails within or partly within the forests.

The law also authorizes the secretary of war to transfer to the secretary of agriculture material, equipment and supplies suitable for highway improvement and not needed by the war department. While most of this will be distributed among the highway commissions of the states for use on federal aid projects, not to exceed 10 per cent may be reserved by the secretary of agriculture for use in building national forest roads or other roads constructed under his direct supervision.

The \$9,000,000 fund may be used for maintenance as well as survey and construction.

\*\*\*\*\*  
+ MINERS SHOULD FILE  
+ CLAIMS IMMEDIATELY +  
+ Washington, Mar. 8.—Members of the commission to address just chrome and other war minerals claims, as provided for in the new law furnishing \$3,500,000 for the relief of investors in these mines, are soon to be named. Claimants in Oregon and elsewhere should file their claims immediately. \*\*\*\*\*

## LOWER MEMBERSHIP FEE UNTIL MONDAY MAR. 10

In response to the wish expressed by those present at the smoker last night, Vice President Stott of the Chamber of Commerce, in the absence of President Bramwell, called a special meeting of the board of governors this morning to consider membership fees and dues in the chamber. It was unanimously agreed by the board to continue the wartime rule of the chamber by waiving the entrance fee of \$5, until Monday evening, March 10. Until that time payment of \$1 and a pledge to pay \$1 monthly thereafter will entitle one to membership in the chamber.

Instead of the regular Monday noon luncheon, dinner will be served at 6:30 p. m., after which the annual business meeting and election of officers will be held.

### FRANCIS MAKES STATEMENT

Washington, Mar. 8.—Ambassador Francis, who recently returned from Russia, testified before the senate propaganda committee that he was informed by Raymond Robbins, former head of the American Red Cross in Russia, that he had returned to the United States as a courier of the Bolshevik government with a proposal for President Wilson.

## AMERICAN LOSSES FILED AT WASHINGTON

Washington, Mar. 8.—Claims filed by American citizens and concerns with the state department against Germany and Austria-Hungary total \$7,000,000. Additional claims are expected to be filed. The claims are divided into two classes, those arising from submarine atrocities, and those due from other acts. A large force has been compiling the American losses for several months.

## 240,197 ARMY LOSSES DURING THE GREAT WAR

GENERAL MARCH MAKES PUBLIC LATEST FIGURES COVERING YANK CASUALTIES

### 2ND REGULARS LOSE 24,429

1,361,528 Soldiers Have Been Discharged—U. S. Army of 509,909 Will Be Maintained

Washington, Mar. 8.—Battle casualties of the American army in France as shown by the revised records total 240,197. General March announced here today. These include the killed, wounded, missing and prisoners. The former figures by divisions did not include the wounded.

The Second Regular division had the greatest losses, losing 24,429. The First division lost 23,973. The 91st division had 5,838 casualties.

The demobilization reports show that 1,361,528 men have been discharged. General March said the army would not be reduced under any circumstances below 509,909, the figure mentioned in the demobilization bill which failed in congress. This number will be maintained until some law is passed providing for a permanent force.

## CANADIANS ENRAGED AT DELAY IN GETTING HOME

London, Mar. 8.—From eight to 37 persons are estimated to have been killed and from 25 to 73 wounded in rioting during the last three days at the Kimmel military camp at Rhyll, Wales, according to a Liverpool dispatch received here today. Great property damage was caused, the dispatch adds.

According to latest reports from Liverpool the riot was started by malcontents. There were 25,000 Canadians in the camp awaiting demobilization and embarkation. The men who caused the trouble were war casualties who had served for three years or more in France. They complained that their embarkation had been postponed while other men who had seen less service were sent home.

After the destruction of stores of all kinds on Tuesday by the discontented men, the situation took a more serious turn Wednesday when the cavalry was called out, but was forbidden to use its arms.

Troops from Chester intercepted the rioters in their march upon Abergele, near Rhyll, and also prevented a threatened raid on the latter place. Five men were killed and 40 injured in the course of this fighting, it is reported.

There was further shooting early Thursday morning, but at no time was there organized firing by any armed party. Most of the deaths were due to crushing, it was said. An unarmed major holding the Victoria Cross, and believed to be from New Brunswick, is reported to have been virtually trampled to death while attempting to defend the officers' quarters against great odds.

The Daily Mail says the Canadian authorities restored order without the assistance of British troops, and declares that the matter is solely one for Canadian disciplinary action.

A staff officer flew from the war office in London by airplane and addressed the men, declaring that their mobilization grievances regarding demobilization especially, which caused the outbreak, should immediately be removed. He declared that 10,000 men would be away by the week after next and that four transports would be placed at the disposal of the colonials.