

# La Grande Evening Observer

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## THOUSAND ACRES ARE SUBSCRIBED

### TRACT EAST OF THE CITY ADDED TO SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Wasco Man Who Owns Tract of Land East of La Grande Throws 1000 Acres in for Irrigation Scheme—Reflection of Feeling Among the Live Land Owners—Great Land Opening at Gooding Today is Criterion of What Water Does.

J. D. McKennon is in receipt of a letter from Mr. Barrett of Wasco, who owns a 1600-acre tract of land east of La Grande, stating that he will put 1000 acres of it into the irrigation project. There is no question but what this enterprise will be a go when the land owners come forward like this. This is not the only 1000-acre man on the list and there are several 500-acre subscriptions and, in fact, there are very few land owners within the zone of the proposed ditch but what is doing his share. Many, at first, who had not given the matter consideration, held off until they realized that now is the accepted time and to delay was to pay a much higher price than it would have cost them had they waited until they found an opportunity to buy a few shares of some of their more far-sighted neighbors.

Some of us several years ago thought land values were high. Then, after seeing values grow, we knew five years ago that it had reached the top notch. Wait two or three years after this ditch is completed and then some of us will have heart trouble when we read about the sales of real estate in this neighborhood, "which we might have secured had we acted in time."

Coming as this subscription does, on the day when the big Idaho land opening takes place, it has special significance, demonstrating that

Union county land owners are as alive to the needs of irrigation as the hundreds mentioned in the following dispatch:

### Great Crowds Attend.

Boise, Feb. 8.—Fifty thousand acres of land under the west end of the Twin Falls irrigation project, were opened to the public today. The drawing for lands is held at Gooding. Big crowds are there.

The opening of this tract bring the total amount of land irrigated land under the project to 520,000 acres, making the biggest irrigation system in the world.

Richard Lehman of Pendleton, was a land office visitor today.

## FEW CONTESTS MATERIALIZING

### OF LARGE NUMBER FILED

ONLY FEW HAVE HEARING.

Another Contest in Famous 4-41 Filings is Being Heard in the City Today—Many Filed, But Few Enjoy Paying Heavy Testimony Expense—Cases Long-Inded.

One of the few contest cases to materialize out of the great number that were filed as an outcome of the land opening in Wallowa county some time ago, came to a hearing in this city today. The expense incurred by carrying out the contests have scared away many of the squatters who claim preference rights.

Out of the large number of entries made in this city when the famous line-up ended, grew notices of contest on practically every claim, but so far only a very few have materialized, having been either postponed or dis-

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## WILLIAMS CASE PUT OFF AGAIN

### HALF DOZEN ARTICLES EXPECTED THIS EVENING.

Grand Jury Reported to Half Dozen Cases Ready for Court This Evening—Joe Williams Case is Postponed Until Tomorrow, When it Will Come to Trial—Case on the Docket for Hearing Today is Sugar Company Against Orton—Smith Matter Rumored Pending.

Without having made a report since last Tuesday, the grand jury is said to be ready to make an exhaustive return this evening, six bills being rumored as the total of cases disposed of. It is stated on good authority that the entire batch will be reported this evening. It is not certain that the Lanus-Smith affair will be handled in the report due to come in this evening.

Joe Williams trial on the charge of arson will be commenced tomorrow morning unless other delays occur. Though set for this morning, the sensational case was not started on account of other cases having taken precedence. The case before the court today was that of the Sugar Co. against Orton. This is not a long case and will come to an end this evening in time for the Williams case to be resumed tomorrow.

### King and Queen Embark.

London, Feb. 8.—King Edward and Queen Alexandria left this city this morning for Dover, where they boarded a yacht and started on a journey for Berlin to visit the kaiser.

### French Writer Dead.

Paris, Feb. 8.—Catull Mendes, a leading French writer, died today.

## SATURDAY A PROFITABLE ONE

### NEARLY \$60 TURNED IN FOR NEW PARK THAT DAY.

Five Hundred of the Five Thousand Needed Are Now on Hand—Except for First \$250, Donations Have Been Small Ones, Though Numerous—Hearty Co-operation is Evident—Benefits and New Memberships Encouraged—Tag Day Set For Next Summer.

Saturday was a fair day for the Riverside Park association. The ladies of the "500" club turned in an even \$50, accumulated in one evening, though none of the many guests at the benefit card party Friday night felt the loss of a cent, for the value received was par excellence. Then too, on Saturday, \$8 for new memberships were brought in, and Dorothy, Alfred and Paul Meyers, and others, turned in another rod of pennies for the mile of pennies fund. The growth of the park fund is not spasmodic, for there are few days that do not find a trifle at least added to the sum in hand. One of the big things looked forward to is the Tag day that is planned for the good old summer time. A big bulk of the lacking funds should be realized when the tags are all sold out.

### Benefits Desirable.

The money is coming in slowly but surely. By giving numerous benefits from time to time, and with new members joining the association, the fund will swell even more rapidly than at present. Few if any can financially afford to give large sums, but by attending benefits and exercising personal influence in securing new members, the receipts will be greater than the most sanguine might anticipate, yet, through it all, no one person has donated any great sum of actual cash.

### Need Five Thousand.

To mean a park of which La Grande can be justly proud, \$5000 will be needed. If every one works along the lines suggested, the goal sought will be achieved quickly and without financial discomfiture to any individual.

The best criterion of the universal popularity of the park movement is the fact that few have given more than one dollar, yet \$500 is now in the hands of the association to buy land and improve it. Out of this \$500, \$216 was realized from the old park association.

### Mites Are Welcomed.

No sum is so small that it will not be heartily welcomed for the promoters inaugurating the campaign with the understanding that donations be small and many. Therefore the officials having in charge the work will accept a small contribution and keep as close a record of it as they would of a large one.

Italians Scared by Quake. Syracuse, Italy, Feb. 8.—An earthquake at Noto today drove people from their homes. They spent the remainder of the night in the open.

RESIGN NOW. SALEM, FEB. 8.—GOVERNOR CHAMBERLAIN WAS ADVISED TODAY THAT HE HAD RECEIVED ADVICES TO BE IN WASHINGTON MARCH 4, TO ATTEND AN EXTRA SESSION OF THE SENATE. HE WILL RESIGN AND BENSON WILL ACT AS GOVERNOR.

## MACHINERY IS NOW ENROUTE

### RAPID PROGRESS WITH INTERIOR ON FLOUR MILL.

Builders Receive Shipment of Windows for Large Structure at Island City Today—Machinery Rolling and More to Start at Once—Elevator is Done.

Island City, Feb. 8.—(Special.)—With the arrival in Island City today of a shipment of windows for the Pioneer Flouring Mill company, the builders have resumed active work, and as for the building itself, commenced the finishing touches. The windows did not arrive on schedule time and little could be done with interior finishing until the carpenters had the shipment at hand. This week will see rapid headway in the finishing phase.

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## OPTION LEAGUE GIVEN SETBACK

### SEGREGATION BILL IS REPORTED FAVORABLY.

House Members Will Have to Decide Between Hopgrowers and Prohibitionists—Bill Sent to Alcohol Committee—Will Mean, if Passed, That Beer Can Stay, Where Whisky is Not Allowed—Mock Bill With Humorous Twinge Passed.

Salem, Feb. 8.—Local option interests suffered a setback in the house today when the bill authorizing a separate vote be taken on permitting the sale of beer, or whisky, in all precincts, at all future elections, under the local option law, was referred to the committee on alcohol traffic. The committee will report the bill favorably, and the members of the house will have to go on record as against the organized hopgrowers or against the prohibitionists.

The bill to aid the Umatilla-Morrow county irrigation project was passed. A mock resolution to abolish the legislature and sell the state capitol to collectors of political curiosities, was referred to the committee on immigration.

The fate of all the salary bills will be known Thursday night, when they will be segregated from other legislation before the house, so it can get special consideration.

Chamberlain this afternoon sent in two more veto messages, one against a raise in the salary of circuit judge of Baker City district, from \$3000 to \$4000, and the other against raising the salary of the clerk of Curry county.

## CHICAGO FLYER HITS OPEN SWITCH

Coldwater, Miss., Feb. 8.—Fireman Martin Senton and an unidentified porter, were killed, two fatally hurt, and 15 less seriously injured, when the northbound "Chicago Flyer" of the Illinois Central road ran into an open

switch on the outskirts of the city this morning. Officials suspect wreckers. The whole train was derailed. George Matthews, the express messenger, and a tramp will die. Passengers were thrown into heaps in various coaches.

## HUGE BOULDER STRIKES C. N. TRAIN

Bellingham, Feb. 8.—Passengers on the southbound Great Northern train, leaving here at noon yesterday, are their narrow escape from death when a rock slide crashed into the train near Sehome dock. P. E. Perine, the express messenger, cut about the head, was the only one injured. At that point the road is cut through

solid rock. A huge boulder weighing several tons rolled down the embankment, crashing into the train at the rear part of the combination mail and express car, making a big hole. The first four cars were thrown from the rails.

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**DEFEAT METED OUT TO "DRYS"**

WASHINGTON OPTIONISTS SLOWLY GIVING AWAY.

Wets Claim Victory in Washington, as the Drays Are Giving Away to the Influence of Liquor Interests.

Olympia, Wash., Feb. 8.—Influences are that the local option bill will be torn to pieces in the house this afternoon. The wets claim to have switched four votes from the "dry" to their side, and others are said to be available. This will give them a majority and enable them to remodel the bill. They formed an organization to vote as a unit. They also announce they will defeat every bill introduced by the drays.

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