

# La Grande Evening Observer

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## MILL CREEK ON RAMPAGE

STREAM CUTS NEW COURSE IN SOUTH LA GRANDE

FOLEY HOTEL AND OTHER BUILDINGS ALSO SUFFER

Evident that a cloudburst occurred Saturday night south of town—Mill Creek and Deal Canyon veritable rivers—Much damage done on the Curtis homestead and adjoining property suffers likewise.

Changing its course during the mad career of Saturday night, Mill Creek is today running through the center of the Curtis orchard, doing about \$100 damage to fruit trees and lawns there, ruining liberal portions of the Baker homestead, and doing much damage to the section of South La Grande lying along C. Avenue. For a distance of four blocks, the dirt is washed away from C. Avenue and sidewalks are displaced.

All this took place Saturday night following what was evidently a cloudburst in the mountains south and west of the city. Mill creek canyon carried away more water than Deal canyon and consequently damage to city property was most severe in South La Grande.

**Keep All Night Vigil.**  
Street Superintendent Matott drafted a large force of men Saturday night and by constant fighting during the night managed to prevent as much damage as possible. The flow of water down Mill creek was such, however, as to forestall and tangible fight with it and the changed course could not be prevented.

Practically every basement along Adams avenue is waterlogged today as the result of the terrific floods which visited portions of Union county last Saturday night. N. avenue, First street and several streets adjacent to these two, were veritable canals along which light objects such as buckets, wood, brooms and other objects generally found around kitchen doors, were transplanted down streets and lodged along sidewalks and mounds as the water receded.

The stream under the sidewalk by the old L. D. S. Church was a real river, carrying away sidewalks and ruining lawns in many places.

The down town districts suffered mostly from surplus water in basements.

The Foley Hotel heating plant was out of commission all Saturday night. General trouble was experienced all along the street. Henry & Carr's store was waterlogged in the basement. All day long there has been a constant effort to rid the basements of water.

Damage to the extent of about \$300 was done yesterday to the new road constructed by the county a year ago just below Perry. The enormous quantity of water that went down the river yesterday covered the new stretch of road completely and did a little damage in places but the main portion of the road is still intact.

Bridge Superintendent Campbell has a force of men clearing the difficulty again and traffic can be resumed by this evening.

The river was higher yesterday than it has been this year. It started to recede but this morning went up again and by 10 o'clock had reached a point within eight inches of the high stage last night. The crest of the flood has been reached, it is believed by all those who are keeping in touch with events.

### Race Swindler Sentenced

Council Bluffs, Ia., March 21.—J. C. Maybray, the leader of the notorious gang of race swindlers and 1 associate were today sentenced to two years in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth and to pay a fine of \$2000.

## TWO KILLED WHEN ENGINE JUMPS RAILS AT MISSION CURVE SUNDAY MORNING

ENGINEER RISK AND FIREMAN HOPPLE MEET ALMOST INSTANT DEATH OTHERS ESCAPE MIRACULOUSLY

Two lives were snuffed out and the lives of many others miraculously saved Sunday morning at 6 o'clock when a light engine running down Kameia hill to help No. 6 up, jumped the track at a point 2 miles east of

Mission and plowed into the hill with terrific force, and later ditching a westbound freight train, throwing an engine and seven cars into the Umatilla river. Engineer L. S. Risk and his fireman, Ed Hopple, were instantly killed. These men were running down the hill at what must have been a high rate of speed, for the engine refused to "take the curve" and it plowed straight into the embankment. It did not tip over but cleared the rails so that the block would not "throw" notifying the engineer on the freight coming down 20 minutes behind, that there was trouble ahead.

The momentum of the light engine which struck the bank was such that the law of motion was maintained. The coal in the tender "kept going" when the nose of the engine struck the bank, and quick as a flash piled the engineer and fireman against the boiler head. Risk was terribly scalded and his body mutilated by the heat of the boiler and the force of the coal piled against him. Hopple escaped serious burns but was buried under the large amount of coal and was the last extricated from the debris. Thus apparently was the death of the two men. The engine was 215.

**Freight Strikes Light Engine.**  
Twenty minutes later Engineer Robertson and Fireman Charles Wil-

son, running down the hill with a freight train, bumped into the previous wreck. A portion of the tender of 215 had not cleared the mainline and this was struck by the oncoming freight engine, 385.

At this instant another miracle occurred. The first engine had run into the embankment on the left, but the oncoming freight engine was pushed to the right and turned turtle into the river several feet below the track. The engineer and fireman saw the obstruction in time to save their lives, Wilson leaping to the left and Robertson to the right. Robertson fell into a wire fence and several of the freight cars passed over his head and into the river.

### Have Miraculous Escape

Running about 20 miles an hour, Engineer Henry Hensen and Foreman John Daniels had a narrow escape from frightful injury last Saturday night as well as can be imagined, when the second section of No. Five went in the ditch near Durkee, following a heavy downpour of rain. Water had undermined the track at one point and the engine toppled over without the least warning, falling on its right side. The engineer was, of course, pinned to his seat by the weight of the fireman, who had been hurled from his side to that of the engineer by the tip over. Mud and water rushed through the engineer's window in great volumes. With presence of mind, Daniels managed to get to his feet and making a way clear to escape, assisted Mr. Hensen through the fireman's entrance which by that time was above the men, instead of to the side. They escaped without injury.

### Messenger Schultz Escapes

Express Messenger Schultz had an escape that was truly as bewildering. The baggage car was thrown crosswise on the track by the ditching. Trunks and packages carromed from one side to the other, but he escaped unhurt.

Quick work by the wrecking crew from La Grande prevented any very long delay of the trains from the East. No. 9 arrived last night at 12:35, and both sections of No. 5 followed at about 1 o'clock. No. seven got in this morning at 6:20.

Trains are again running on the Joseph branch, where the last slide is reported to have done little damage. The train yesterday was six hours late and one car had lost three sets of steps. These were replaced this morning and the train went out on time.

### HOPPLE A POPULAR FIREMAN.

Victim of wreck was a young man with relatives in East.

David Edward Hopple was twenty-five years of age. His parents and three sisters live in Harrisburg, Pa. An older brother, Walter, is yard foreman at Ruth, Nevada, and a younger brother, Harry, is also at that place. Word was sent to Walter Hopple yesterday, who is on the way to meet the remains, which will be brought to his city.

Hopple was a member of the local Brotherhood of Railway Firemen and Engineers.

His room mate, Bert Williams, and four other firemen, representing the Brotherhood, went to Pendleton yesterday to take charge of the body.

### DELAY APPOINTMENTS

Mayor elect will consult with council before appointing

Unless there is a change in plans this evening, the list of appointments for city appointive offices usually named by the mayor elect, will not be named until next Wednesday, when Mayor-elect Meyers wishes to meet the council informally and discuss the appointments. The mayor appoints but the council ratifies, and in this way a meeting to discuss the appointments will avoid disqualifications of any of the appointees.

The mayor's message will be read and all the new officials sworn in tonight. Routine matters will be attended to only.

Next Wednesday night the following officers will be filled by appointment:

city attorney, street superintendent, water superintendent, city auditor, pound master, two night officers and gate keeper at the Beaver creek intake.

Reports of all officers for the year will be read tonight, and this, with installation of new officers, will consume the evening's business.

## 42 KILLED IN SMASHUP

Wreck in Iowa spells death to large number of persons.

Chicago, March 21.—Rock Island railroad officials here say 14 bodies have been recovered from the wreck of a double-header passenger derailed today at Reinbeck, Iowa. It is reported that the total number of dead is 25 and injured 24. The train was bound for Minneapolis and running over the Chicago Great Western tracks because the Rock Island tracks were blocked by another wreck.

### List of Dead Grows

The latest reports from the Reinbeck wreck say 42 persons were killed and nearly twice that number injured.

Relief and wrecking trains have gone to the scene. Automobiles carrying doctors and nurses are headed for Marshalltown where many of the injured were taken. Telephone reports say the wreckage is afire and that the rescuers are fighting to save many people left in the debris of the wrecked cars.

A train carrying the dead and injured has left the scene of the wreck for Marshalltown.

When the engine left the track, three cars piled upon them and fire broke out. The cars destroyed were a baggage car, a chair car and one sleeper.

## VICTORY MAY BE WORTHLESS

INSURGENTS SEEM DOOMED TO LOSE AFTER ALL

WON'T BE ABLE TO GAIN RULES COMMITTEE SEATS

Becomes evident today that regulars can control situation after all and that insurgent victory is merely a paper one with no weight behind it—The insurgents seem confident anyway.

Washington, March 21.—Among the matters to be taken up by the new rules committee of the house after organization are 23 measures on which the old committee had taken no action. They include many matters, it is declared, that were suppressed by Cannon. The new committee is expected to have a big task.

It was admitted today that Cannon forces will control the caucus that names members of the committee and it is believed they will attempt to capture a majority, thus leaving the insurgents only a paper victory.

The greatest result of the rules revolution in the present House so far as the present session is concerned will be a full discussion of the Taft legislative program on the floor, according to insurgent leaders today.

"No matter how the new committee on rules is constituted" said Norris of Nebraska today "it has been decided that the house can decide for itself what it wants. No matter what the new committee may do the house itself will have the last to say. It is believed the victory was a step toward fulfillment of the platform pledges of the party."

Indications are today that the insurgents will have no place on the rules committee.

Today's session of the house is without incident. Routine business was transacted and there is nothing to indicate the turbulent times of Saturday. The Democrats blame the insurgents for Cannon's final victory.

"The insurgents showed a yellow streak," said Sims of Tenn.

Champ Clark is pleased with the result. Things are in better shape than for 20 years, he says.

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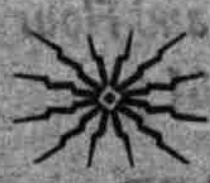
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