

STORM GRIPS CHICAGO; ZERO MARK FEARED

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS COPE WITH LIFE-SAVING PROBLEM IN SLUMS

TRACTION LINES ARE TAXED

Generally Believed Storm Will Continue Over Chicago District and If It Does Suffering Will Be Severe Than Now—Brick Canyons of Chicago Battle With the Storm and Snow.

GROUND HOG DAY SUNDAY.
Probably Mr. Ground Hog will see his shadow tomorrow which is ground hog day and if he does the superstition goes that he will go back in his hole and hibernate through another cold spell. Hicks predicts generally cold weather throughout the country but not unusually cold in the far west.

Chicago, Feb. 1.—Zero weather is predicted and there is great suffering among the poor as the result of a heavy storm raging here. The weather bureau states that if the storm lasts two days more the temperature will drop far below zero. Charitable organizations are making hurried preparations to save lives which may be endangered.

Driven by a high wind, snow is sweeping through the brick canyons of the loop district. Every car-line is fighting hard to keep going.

If the snow fall continues it is feared all traction lines will be crippled, and the suffering already prevailing will be made all the worse.

HIGHS TO PLAY COLUMBIA.

Tuesday Game Arranged With High School Squad.

La Grande's high school basketball team will take on Columbia college basketball team of Milton in this city on Tuesday, the fourth of February. The La Grande team is showing up in fine form under Coach Olson and the Milton team comes well recommended. This ought to be one of the banner games of the year. The game will be played in the high school gymnasium. A large crowd is expected to witness the interesting contest. Two days later the Y. M. C. A. team meets the collegians.

Miss Burk to Portland.

Miss Hazel Burk, one of La Grande's popular young women now

PORTER J. M'CUMBER.

U. S. Senator From North Dakota Fighting Newspaper Publicity Law



HIRAM WILLIAMS DEAD.

Demise of Well Known La Grande Resident Occurs This Morning.

Hiram Williams of this city passed away this morning at 8 o'clock of paralysis at his home on 1505 U avenue. Mr. Williams was born in England and came to the United States in 1861 settling in Salt Lake where he lived up to 12 years ago. He then moved to Oregon and has lived here ever since. He was married to Miss Rose Berger of Salt Lake and to them were born five children all of whom survive. Besides his wife and children he leaves one sister in Ogden, Utah, to mourn his demise. Mr. Williams would have been 59 years of age on the 26th of this month. He worked for the O.-W. for a number of years and was in that road's employ at the time of his death.

The funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon from the chapel of Henry & Carr. The time has not been definitely determined but it is thought the services will not be until 3 p. m.

Grangers Build Barn.

Assuming that it is not right to allow horses to stand in the storm while the owners are enjoying grange festivities, the grange hall appurtenances east of the city have been added to by the building of a team shed. The grange meets next Wednesday.

Six Year Measure Passes.

Washington, Feb. 1.—Senator Works of California got his constitutional amendment measure limiting the president's tenure of office to one term of six years, through the senate. This measure will have to be signed by the president and then ratified by three-fourths of the states of the union to become effective.

employed in Portland left for that place today after a three weeks' vacation at the home of her parents on Fourth street.

BANDIT ROBBS TRAIN OF MANY THOUSANDS IN HEART OF CITY

Chicago, Feb. 1.—Depredations of the old-time desperadoes were outdone last night when a masked bandit held up an express car in the heart of Chicago and forced the agent to turn over the contents of the car. When he had secured these he was intercepted by the conductor. But a blow of his fist floored the conductor and his escape among the crowds was but a trifling matter.

The car is said to carry the day's receipts of the stock yards to the banks in the heart of the city, and

it is claimed they rarely run less than \$50,000 per day. Although the clerk of the express company claims that the loss was but \$3,000 the police insist that the train never carries less than the amount stated above.

STORM GRIPS

Utah Woman to Visit Here.

Mrs. Boswell of Utah is expected to arrive in La Grande today to be the guest of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Boswell of near La Grande.

Portland-La Grande Men Buy Business Corner And Will Erect Fine Building

What is without doubt the most important real estate transaction La Grande has experienced in many, many months occurred late yesterday afternoon when N. K. West of this city and C. S. Jacobson of Portland purchased the splendid business corner diagonally across from the La Grande National bank from Senator Turner Oliver. Erection of a modern building will begin just as soon as the weather will permit. The lot purchased has double frontage—60 feet on Adams avenue and 110 feet on Elm street, and is the last extra choice business property that is still vacant. It is in the heart of the business section, so situated that regardless of the direction the city may grow the "Oliver corner," as it has long been known, remains at the "hub" of La Grande's commercial wheel.

FARMERS FILE FORMAL REPLY

NOT A CORPORATION IS KEYNOTE OF ANSWER.

Complaint Filed by Home Company Is Erroneous, Say Directors.

John Wells, president of the Farmers union, returned this morning from a trip to Salem and Portland. In speaking of the telephone case which is now pending before the railroad commission Mr. Wells declared that the Farmers' union in their answer to the complaint filed by the Home Independent Telephone company denied that they are a corporation and that they are \$30,000 in debt. They are in debt but not to that amount. The Farmers company take the stand that they are merely a co-operative society or association and do not possess the attribute of a legal corporation. Hence they say the complaint has misnamed them and that they do not come under the provisions covering the operations of corporations. The hearing date is to be set soon.

Mr. Wells also commented on the doing of the legislature. "There is altogether too much grandstand playing," he declared, "and the senate and the house introduce measures that are not only needless but in many instances the bills are so much alike that it is laughable. They are defeating one another in some respects and the system seems to be a kind of jockeying for favor. One of the biggest grafts is the employment of lady stenographers for each of the legislators. But the ridiculous part of the thing is that the stenographers sit around as ornaments at \$5.00 per day when the legislators only get \$3.00. All agree that the ladies are good to look at and very pretty, but it's an expensive ornament that the taxpayers are paying for.

"On the other hand I must say that the legislators are accommodating. They come around to the Farmers' union and ask us what we want. What is more, it is likely that we will get everything we are asking for. There is a great deal of useless oratory and many of the men don't exactly know what they want. It's the best thing we can do for the present and the future will have to inaugurate the necessary changes.

"Everybody seems to be after the governor's neck and instead of operating with him they oppose him needlessly. I consider the governor's work in reforming the state institutions as worth while."

Mr. Wells left for Imbler, his home, this morning.

Judge Phelps Better.

Circuit Judge J. W. Knowles has been advised by telephone messages today that Judge G. W. Phelps of Pendleton who is suffering with the smallpox, is slightly better today.

Announcement of the purchase was a surprise to real estate circles, as there was no deal even talked of on the property. That Portland capital should be attracted to the investment caused not only a complete surprise but a general feeling of satisfaction.

N. K. West, who has ever had abiding faith in La Grande and her real estate values, induced Mr. Jacobson of Portland to investigate the lot with the result that the two men joined in the investment.

Last evening before leaving for his home in Portland Mr. Jacobson said: "I have watched La Grande carefully for some time and her solid growth has pleased me. The resources of this city would have justified a loud hurrah and a boom, but instead the people have been content with solid, substantial growth which counts for more in the end than all the booms."

Regarding the building that is to be erected both Mr. West and Mr. Jacobson expressed themselves plainly to the effect that they were in the market for leasers and upon the amount of leases would depend the height of the new structure. It will be a thoroughly modern building covering the entire ground and will be at least two stories high, but there is no limit to the number of stories that will be built if tenants want leases. That work on the building will positively begin as soon as weather conditions will permit is a settled fact. The entire building is open for leasing contracts now.

Outside Capital for La Grande.

This is not the first outside capital that Mr. West has induced to invest in La Grande business property. The

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GEO. BENSON SHOW'S HEAD

STOCK SHOW DIRECTORS AND SUPPORTERS MEET.

Enthusiasm for 1913 Show in Union Is Higher Than Ever.

Union, Feb. 1.—(Special)—George Benson, the luminary who put the 1912 horse show at Union on the map of the Northwest, was last night put back in office for 1913, with support guaranteed from every element, every profession and every individual. The election of Mr. Benson followed the acceptance of the resignation of Jim Hutchinson, who has found it impossible to serve though he was elected this year.

The directors held a meeting last evening to act on the resignation and incidentally there was a rousing meeting of stock show supporters as well. Mr. Hutchinson's resignation was accepted and Mr. Benson put back into office. Harmonious support has always been accorded the horse show presidents but this year Union is agreed that there is going to be even greater.

"Right off the reel, is the way things will be doing from now on" agreed the business men after their very successful meeting last evening.

PEACE ENVOYS LEAVE LONDON TO START WAR

MAY RE-ASSEMBLE WHEN ADRIANOPLE HAS FALLEN TO BALKANS.

NEGOTIATIONS EXPENSIVE

Conferences Have Drained and Sapped Supplies and Credit of the Balkans Until Breaking Point Comes—Sharp Decisive Fighting to Be the Rule as Soon as War Is Resumed.

London, Feb. 1.—Practically all hope of peace in the Balkans has fled by the departure of the Balkan envoys. It is almost certain that war is to follow. Stojan Novakovich, the Serbian plenipotentiary, said before he departed that he believed interference of the powers will now be impossible.

"The next convention for peace and for a new armistice will be arranged on a drumhead battlefield after the fall of Adrianople. Any settlement that will be arrived at will include absolute cession of Scutari and Janina," he said. Only one peace envoy remains in London.

Before departure for Athens, Premier Venizelos said: "Our reason for resuming war is that negotiations which don't bring peace are as expensive as war. Eight hundred thousand troops are gradually exhausting the resources of the allies. This the Turks know and we believe their policy of dissimulation and delay has no other object than the gradual sapping of our credit and our supplies.

"We shall now destroy the fruits of that policy by sharp decisive action in the field. The cost of maintaining Greece's army in the field has been a million a day. After Turkey's fate is sealed, we may return to London to sign the treaty of peace."

London diplomats concede that the allies are no longer bluffing.

Canter's Move to Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Canter who have been making La Grande their home for the past few months, went to Portland today where they will reside in the future. Mr. Canter was in the employ of Mr. King the cigar maker.

Lecture at Island City.

J. A. Church, city superintendent of schools of Baker will lecture this evening at Island City on the subject, "Old and New Views of Boyhood." Mr. Churchill will spend Sunday at the home of E. E. Bragg.

OBSERVER ADDS EXPERT PRESSMAN.

The Observer takes pleasure in announcing to its many customers that Mr. J. E. Kilby, recognized throughout the coast country as one of the best pressmen, has associated himself with The Observer and will have charge of the presses. Mr. Kilby is rated as one of the expert three color process men, and the advent of such a pressman in an Eastern Oregon printing office is of considerable importance. The Observer is pleased to be able to offer services of the first high class pressman in Eastern Oregon and all job printing will bear out our high recommendation of Mr. Kilby. Our presses are busy but we can handle your work. Telephone us and we will call.

UNCLE SAM: "COME ALONG!"



—Carter in New York American.