

La Grande Evening Observer

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER -- PRINTS THE NEWS THE DAY IT HAPPENS

VOLUME XIII

LA GRANDE, OREGON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1913

NUMBER 107

PREVENTION OF FIRE HAS BEEN SUCCESS

FIRE ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN
EXCELLENT AID TO
TIMBERMEN

SPECIAL MEETING CALLED

Many Miles of Telephone Have Been
Built and Success the First Year
Has been Marked—Next Season
Private Patrols Will Be Withdrawn
Entirely—Secretary Resigns

A special meeting of the Union-Wallowa Counties Fire association was held at the office of the Mount Emily Timber company yesterday afternoon. President George Palmer, presiding. There were present at the meeting, George Palmer, Geo. Palmer Lumber Co.; August S. Stange, secretary-treasurer; J. L. Jacobs, Union Pine Lumber Co., Union; Giles Glass, Bear Creek Lumber Co., Wallowa; G. E. Hayden, East Oregon Lumber Co., Wallowa.

The report of Secretary-Treasurer Stange was read and accepted. The report showed that the association embraced 300,000 acres with 113 members. The Masters-Ewoldt Lumber Co. of La Grande, and Bear Creek Lumber Co. of Wallowa were admitted to membership. The association erected six miles of telephone line and the members of the association constructed twenty-five miles of new telephone lines during the year, besides 35 miles of old trails were cleaned out, to facilitate the means of reaching fires at the earliest moment. Seven fire wardens guarded the timber of the two counties, two independent patrols were maintained by the Geo. Palmer Lumber Co. and the Mount Emily Timber Co. on other holdings. Next year the private patrols will be withdrawn and the association will handle the entire work. Sixteen fires were extinguished in Wallowa county and 28 fires in Union county, during the past season. Secretary-Treasurer Stange presented his resignation on account of his leaving for his old home in Merrill, Wis., on December 8, and his resignation was reluctantly accepted. A. A. Wenzel of the Mount Emily Timber Co. was elected secretary-treasurer of the association. At the annual meeting to be held soon after the first of the year, a director to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Stange will be taken up. The association closes its first year with an excellent record. Through its influence the timber of Wallowa and Union counties has been safeguarded and the association will enter its second year with a record before it, and opportunities for still greater accomplishments.

Bowlers to Be Selected

The five bowlers making the highest average in the ten consecutive games between November 25th and Dec. 1st will be picked to represent La Grande in the match between La Grande and Pendleton in the near future. It has not been decided where the match will be held, but the announcement will be forthcoming in a day or two.

Friday night the Timber Smashers and the Mutts will test out their respective strength at the Club alleys.

Three Celebrators in Jail

Three young men fell into the toils of the law last evening because of too liberal celebration in re Thanksgiving day. Otherwise the night was quiet and the police force had little out of the ordinary.

Comes to Eat Turkey

Ethel Gulling is expected to arrive at noon from Portland to help cut the family bird at the J. C. Gulling home today.

Do We Appreciate It?

BECAUSE in many homes and many towns and many districts there has been suffering, disaster, crop shortage and calamities during the year 1913, while La Grande, Union county and the state of Oregon at large, have great cause to be thankful to the Divine Guidance which from last Thanksgiving day until this has left La Grande free and unscathed from harm, it is incumbent upon the citizenship of La Grande to give unstinted thanks this day. Union county has prospered, there have been no great catastrophes, no pestilence, no holocausts, no calamities, crops have been prolific, and in all ways there has been nothing but prosperity and safety within our homes. Not all towns can say as much, nor all states be as fortunate.

If any man or woman today sits down to dine without first offering thanks to the Almighty for blessings poured upon La Grande and her people this year, he or she is indeed without appreciation.

Finale Curtain Rings Down On Seven Players

This afternoon La Grande completes its football career for the year when it meets the alumni aggregation at the high school athletic field at 2:30 sharp. In a scholastic way, the team has broken even, but its defeat over Baker removes the sting of other setbacks, received at Wallowa and Pendleton. Union and Baker fell before the young huskies of this city, and under the direction of "Chuck" Reynolds, O. A. C. prodigy, have developed some excellent aggressive plays, and derived all the benefit that goes with football training. The year has been far from a failure for the school's honors and individually the team members have derived physical and mental development that go hand in hand with physical training of that sort.

At 2:30 the referee's whistle will open the last high school game for seven of the high school team. That alone should help draw a crowd. Captain Couch, Left Tackle Winters, Right End Laffel, Center Kiddle, Sub-End Adams, Sub Back Proctor, will all graduate next spring and Fullback Oliver will attend O. A. C. next year and will try to make the much coveted monogram under Coach Stewart. Center "Fat" Kiddle will also try to duplicate the Oliver effort and will attend O. A. C. The other graduating members of the team are undecided as to their future.

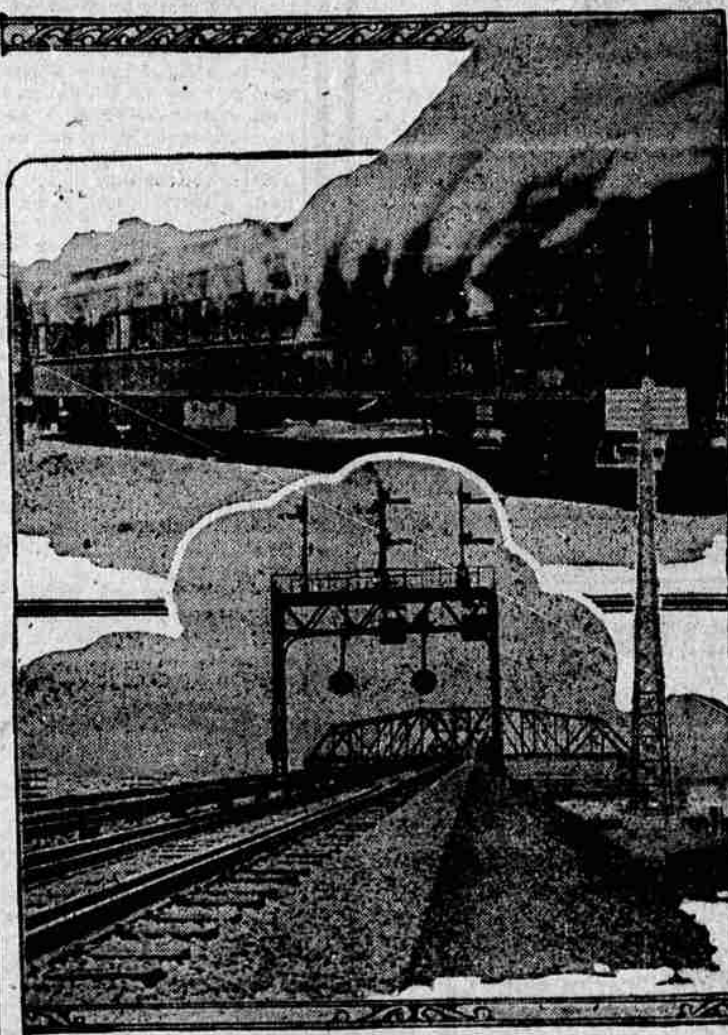
It is regretted by members of the team, coach and fans that the schedule was not arranged so as to put Wallowa and Pendleton on later, as the team was just hitting its stride in the Baker game. Enterprise, Elgin and a return game with Union had been scheduled but fizzled. The honor role of high school football this year with statistics as to position, weight, age, height, experience and class rank, respectively, follow:

Homer Laffel, R. S., 130, 17, 5.6, 1 yr., sen.
Glenn Conkey, R. T., 149, 17 5.11, 1 yr., fresh.
Myrton Westering, R. G., 156, 17, 6.1, 0, jun.
Lyle Kiddle, C., 147, 17, 5.6, 0, sen.
Arthur Huff, L. G., 149, 18, 5.8, 1 yr., jun.
Ralph Winters, L. T., 152, 18, 5.11½, 1 yr., sen.
Raymond Garity, L. E., 135, 16, 5.10, 0, fresh.
Ray Couch, capt., R. F. B., 150, 19, 5.11, 1 yr., sen.

Lynn Oliver, L. F. B., 150, 19, 5.8.

(Continued on Page Eight.)

Steel Cars and Safety Signal Devices Wonders of Railroad



RAILROAD traffic of the present day is a far cry from the inconveniences and the danger of a decade ago. Today every big railroad system adopts sooner or later not only all that makes for the comfort of the travelers, but the newest and best ways of minimizing accidents. Those interesting pictures show what the Pennsylvania railroad has done in two particulars for the greater safety of the public. A fire test of a steel passenger coach showed that the flames merely scorched the paint and burned the cushion. It is claimed that in case of a wreck there is little danger of fire. The evolution of the steel car from the old wooden trolley is not more wonderful, however, than is the strides made in signal safety devices. For instance, one of these pictures shows the signals in front of the drawbridge over a river near New York. If the draw should be open and the engineer not stop these automatic signals would derail the train a safe distance from the river.

POST WHEELER.

Secretary of American Embassy
at Rome, Who Faced Charges.



the system of the one-man, one-room puts on the shoulders of the teacher a burden greater than the rural teacher can bear, compelling her to do the work of all the grades whereas in the city schools each grade has a teacher for that specific grade. Of the children attending school in the United States 36 percent are in the one man room schools and he thinks that in the State of Oregon, omitting the school population of Portland, the percentage is fifty. He takes it to mean that the education in the rural schools is less complete, less satisfactory, less efficient than it would be with another arrangement. To prove the assertion he asked how many of the teachers could teach all of the branches that are required by the state laws. For instance he declared it to be the proper work of a man to instruct boys in agriculture and the manual arts, and the proper duty of a woman to teach girls sewing and domestic art.

He asserted that all are agreed as to the facts of the situation, but that no all were agreed about the best manner of accomplishing the object. The scheme which Dr. Shafer advocates is in brief this:

Radical Scheme Outlined

For the grades above the sixth, that is, for the seventh and the eighth, possibly the ninth, he would create a so-called junior high school erected and maintained by some three districts, which school would employ a competent man teacher for the subjects mentioned above and a similarly competent woman for the subjects that naturally fall within the scope of her work. The advantages to be derived from this arrangement would be these:

In the first place it would make intensive study in the upper grades possible.

Secondly, it would form a meeting place for social gatherings, a place to hold lectures, and a place where the amusements of the young people could be supervised.

Thirdly, it would make it possible for those who had gone through the regular grades to take a so-called post graduate course during the long winter evenings, when time was on their hands.

Fourthly, it would be an incentive for teachers of the best training to teach in the rural schools as the district could provide teachers cottages thus allowing them to make the place their home and be on the ground to take care of the agricultural products that would otherwise be neglected during the months of vacation. It would make it possible for prospective teachers to want to teach in the rural schools in preference to the schools as is now the case.

In closing this enlightening address he spoke of school taxes and made the assertion that school districts will get relatively no more benefit from the schools than they are willing to pay for. He cited the instance of Eugene, where they sought to lower the school tax of seven mills, but where the majority in that community were not in favor of this procedure, arguing that if they paid high taxes they would get

(Continued on Page 4)

MANAGER PRO TEMPORE PUT INTO OFFICE

N. J. MANSAGER TO HOLD UNTIL
PERMANENT MAN IS
SELECTED

TAX LEVY IS FINALLY FIXED

Eighteen and a Half Mills Is Tax
Levy for the City—Robert S. Eakin
Made Municipal Judge and Other
Appointees Hold Office Under Reg-
ular Appointments of Manager

Last cogs in the simple governmental machinery of La Grande were added at the first regular meeting of the city commissioners last evening when a temporary manager was appointed to hold until the permanent one is named.

Nels J. Mansager, for the past two years acting in the capacity of city accountant, and for a time the city recorder, was last night named temporary city manager of the city of La Grande. Resolution No. 1, adopted by the new commissioners last evening, makes of him the manager. He will act but a week, however, unless unforeseen developments occur, for on December 3d, the commissioners hope to name the permanent manager. This man may or may not be a home talent, but no inkling of the probable identity of this permanent manager can be gleaned from the commissioners. The three men have undoubtedly reached the point where they have agreed to agree on a man within a week.

Mr. Manager's duties will be principally to keep the city going though of course, he will handle matters coming to his attention during the brief occupancy in office. The charter provisions make it necessary that a manager be named immediately and this was done by the commission. No appointments for heads of departments were legal until named by the manager, hence the temporary arrangements.

La Grande's new commissioners last night voted a tax levy of 18.5 mills, but the peculiar part of the incident is that the new commissioners will not spend a cent of the \$59,000 thus derived. Eight and five-tenths mills of the total are required by previous ordinances and the commissioners have no volition in the matter. In the balance of the levy the commissioners could fix the size of the levy, but on the other hand they are required by law to pick up the oldest outstanding warrant first, and so on down until the warrants are of cash value.

Consequently, the matter now stands thusly: The returns from the 10 mills levy will retire less than \$33,000 out of the outstanding warrants, which, in other words will not take up, by a margin of about \$8,000 the total amount of warrants issued in 1912. The commissioners will not spend a cent of the money which they are requiring the citizens to pay this year but are paying for the expense of running the city in 1912.

The 1913 tax levy is:

	mills
To retire outstanding warrants	10.0
Sinking fund Beaver Creek pipe line	2.5
Bond interest fund	4.8
Park maintenance	4
Library maintenance	3

Total 18.5

The initial session of the council saw but two or three matters of much importance transacted. The matter of Second street viaduct was left on the table where the recent council had placed it and the purchase of improvement bonds of small denomination with Beaver Creek sinking fund moneys was put over until next week.

New Appointments Made
City Manager N. J. Mansager filed

(Continued on Page 4)