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CITY 30 YEARS OLD TODAY; AS A TOWN, IS 50

C. H. FINN AND J. D. SLATER
PROMINENT OFFICERS IN
FIRST COUNCIL.

THIRTY-YEAR GROWTH PROVEN REMARKABLE

Many of First Council Have Moved
Elsewhere and Some Are Dead, but
First City Attorney Is Again City
Attorney Today—Finn as First
Mayor Admits He Dictated.

La Grande is today celebrating the 30th anniversary of her history as a city. Thirty years ago today the city cast off its town mantle and donned the garb of a city—and several significant features characterize the date. C. H. Finn, one of the veteran attorneys of Eastern Oregon today, and still a resident of La Grande, was the man who assumed the duties of mayor 30 years ago. Attorney J. D. Slater, a few weeks ago appointed attorney, was the original city attorney, having held the office of town recorder up to the time of the election of a mayor and the incorporation as a city. P. A. Mahaffy was the president of the old town council which was absorbed by the incorporation as a city.

While the city is specifically 30 years old today, 1915 also marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of a town here. La Grande was first settled in 1862, but it was in 1865 that the town was incorporated as a town. During the initial 20 years of town life, practically all community affairs centered around the section of La Grande now South La Grande. The coming of the railroad in the middle eighties sharpened the New La Grande fight and it came to the climax when C. H. Finn defeated Daniel Chapman for the first mayorship.

Many interesting facts concerning the birth of the city 30 years ago today are contained in files and records in the city archives.

First Mayor a Dictator.

If one believes Mr. Finn's statement of his first year as mayor, he was a dictator; it was necessary for the municipal government was chaotic to say the least. For the first four months the city council had quarters in the basement of the Blue Mountain university where the high school now stands. Then the railroad company donated a tract of land now occupied by the city library an upon it the council built itself a chamber.

First Election Spirited.

No election since the first has been as spirited, likely, as the one in which Mr. Finn was elected the first mayor. Daniel Chapman, known as the father of the town, was running on a conservative, "Old Town" ticket, and Mr. Finn, though known as the Pacificer, had offices in both Old and New Town, was dubbed "New Town candidate." There were about 500 inhabitants in each division and the fight was terrific.

"Anyway, we won out," said Mr. Finn today in discussing the historical date. "Mr. Chapman was the owner of the land however, where new La Grande is, and his plan to have established two towns was of course not feasible.

First Year Stormy.

"The first year of our existence was stormy. There was a big slough where the Foley now stands, and we compelled the construction of a sewer down the alley which drained the country so the Chinamen had dry ground to live on, and white people later settled there. There was also a slough at the intersection of Adams and Elm, and in conjunction with that particular slough Mox Block and I, had some lively discussions about sidewalks. Settlers preferred to build their sidewalks to suit themselves and we had lots of serious fun getting them down to a common level and grade.

"Prior to the time that the city was incorporated, there had been held a mass meeting at which it was delegated to me to write a city charter embracing both the old and new town. All the saloons were in Old Town then, and the compromise provided that they should run as the Old Town saw fit. Various concessions were made and finally the Old Town gave way to the idea that the new section

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MUCH "CON" SEEN INECONOMY SCREAM

LA GRANDE SENATOR HOME
FROM SALEM.

On the Whole Session Has Been Satisfactory—West End House of Representatives Not Material.

There was considerable "con" in the economy cry of senators who went to Salem as saviors of a tax-ridden state, according to Senator E. E. Kiddle who returned yesterday from Salem where the legislature has concluded its session. "Eliminating the \$450,000 appropriation two years ago for the Tumalo project and the \$175,000 for the Panama fair, the appropriations of the legislature this session were about equal to the one two years ago," said Mr. Kiddle. "It was alright to cut and prune as long as it was somebody else's bill and not yours."

Discussing the question of bossism in both houses, Mr. Kiddle pointed out that it became very clear the last few days that ex-Governor West was boss of the house through Schubel. In the senate, Day and Lair Thompson were the ones termed bosses by the enemy, but Mr. Kiddle pointed out, these men were repeatedly defeated in senate test votes, and Mr. Kiddle prefers to call the Mr. Day a thorough businessman who did a great deal of good through careful organization and business methods.

"The Summer and Abert lake deals appeal to the most solons and business in general. A guaranteed revenue of at least \$25,000 to the state and the likelihood of a great deal more, coupled with the proposed expenditure of several million for a plant, make of the project one worthy of satisfactory trial.

"Jones and Woodell followed the game laws pretty closely and I think the sportsmen will be satisfied as they now stand.

"The passage of the bill giving the governor power to remove any appointive officer, with or without cause will tend to improve administration of laws, and though warmly opposed, will, I believe, work out alright.

The prohibition bill went through with a hurrah, and no doubt meets the approval of the prohibitionists. Chances for the Passage. "Just what Governor Withycombe will do with the judiciary bill creating a new judge in Walla Walla county, is not certain. There are some six or seven such bills, but a few of them show unusual merit, and it is believed that a few of them at least, will escape the veto axe."

SHOTS FIRED WITHOUT HARM

MARIE ROSE PLEADS GUILTY IN
MUNICIPAL COURT.

George Campbell Will Stand Trial
Late This Afternoon.

Following a quarrel on the street near the railroad track in East La Grande last evening, two shots were fired harmlessly into the ground as the climax of a dispute between Marie Rose and George Campbell. The two had met, it appears in police records, on the street last evening and quarreled, and the police say that Campbell's defense when the trial comes up this afternoon, will be that the woman reached in his pocket and removed therefrom a revolver, and that when he seized her wrist, she pulled the trigger twice. A telephone call to the police department followed and today Mrs. Rose pleaded guilty without comment and was fined \$25.00 but Mr. Campbell pleaded not guilty and his case was set for this afternoon.

Roll Call Tonight.

Members of the Moose lodge will meet in roll call meeting tonight. Various important business transactions are coming up and a big membership attendance is expected.

TODAY'S ODDDEST STORY.

Glenwood Springs, Colo., Feb. 23.—To doubting friends who have noticed no signs of rabies, Emil Freidheim, a rancher is exhibiting a sore foot and a dentist's bill to prove that he was bitten by his false teeth. Freidheim said that after going to bed he sneezed violently and his teeth flew out on the floor. He jumped up to rescue them and two molars which had broken off "snapped" him in the foot.

CAPTAIN OUT OF HIS PATH, FINDS WILSON

NEW DEVELOPMENT IN EVELYN
CASE TENDS TO REMOVE
COMPLICATION.

FEDERAL WAR RISK INSURANCE TESTED

Careful Investigation Made of the Incident for That Reason Also—Administration Still Confident no Complications of International Nature Will Result.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Information has reached President Wilson that the captain of the American steamer "Evelyn" disobeyed instructions and was out of the course at sea he had been advised to take, when his vessel ran into a floating mine and was sunk in the North Sea Saturday.

Officials of the navy department and the state department as well as busy endeavoring to secure further facts, since the Evelyn was the first ship insured under the federal War Risk Insurance bureau.

Secretary Daniels has not received further advice and there is no disposition on the part of the administration officials to believe international troubles will result from the accident.

ANOTHER SHIP STRUCK

Norwegians Again Lose Ship, This Time by Submarine Blows.

London, Feb. 23.—The Norwegian steamer Regin was sunk in the English channel today. It is believed she was torpedoed.

The Regin was carrying coal from Tyne to Bordeaux and sank 15 minutes after she had been struck. The crew of 20 landed at Dover. A Dover dispatch said definitely the Regin had been submerged. Vigorous protests from Norway are considered certain as their ships have been largely the sufferers since the blockade was established.

BRITISH LOSE TRENCHES BUT ALSO ADVANCE

DYNAMITE, ADMIT ENGLISH
DRIVES THEM BACK AT ONE
POINT SUNDAY.

RHEIMS CATHEDRAL IS AGAIN DAMAGED HEAVILY

Many Civilians Killed When German Guns Are Turned Upon Historic City and Though Populace Takes to Cellars, Twenty Are Caught and Killed by Bursting Shells.

Paris, Feb. 23.—It is officially announced that the cathedral at Rheims, one of the most historical structures in the world, has again been severely damaged by bombardment. Twenty civilians were killed, it is said, by bursting shells when Germans directed their guns at Rheims throughout yesterday's fighting. More than 1,500 shells were fired. Civilians fled to cellars but 20 victims were caught in the streets. Scores of houses were fired and a strong wind for a time threatened the city's destruction.

Germans Become Active. London, Feb. 23.—Increasing German activity in the vicinity of Ypres is reported in Paris dispatches. That the Germans destroyed the British trench with mines Sunday and had advanced their lines, is admitted.

It is declared the British, on the other hand, were successfully mining some German trenches near Givenchy, and Germans were forced to retire along the canal.

Germans Very Desperate. Retrograd, Feb. 23.—That Germans are desperately endeavoring to reach Novo-Georovsk, a Russian stronghold guarding the Northern approaches to Warsaw, is admitted in the war office. The place is heavily reinforced. The government officials didn't conceal the fact that Russians are seriously reserved in Prussia but insisted the defeat was not the crushing one that Berlin notices have indicated.

Moving to a Ranch. Cleve Montgomery has leased one of the Albert Hunter farms and is moving his family to the place today.

MOTHER TRAILS SON TO JAIL CELL

ERRING BOY FOLLOWED BY
WEEPING MOTHER.

Marking Trail to Jail with Tears and Heartaches, Mother Pleads for Son

Following close upon the heels of her son who is in trouble with bad check charges, Mrs. Connor of Baker saw her son Charles put in the county jail today. Charles had been arrested at North Powder on a charge of passing bad checks, and as he was out of the penitentiary on parole, his future seems gloomy, but his ever-faithful mother followed him to La Grande with a bleeding heart and will interest herself to the fullest extent to have her son given another trial.

He has once been in the reform school and once in the state penitentiary but got out on parole. He has been giving no trouble up to just recently and his mother was hopeful that he would continue to keep out of trouble. Nevertheless she is standing by him to the last, and today as "Her" boy was brought to the city by a deputy and was met at the train by Deputy Williamson, she trailed the officers to the jail, her face keenly displaying the pangs that pulsed through her aged body as, with handkerchiefs showing, her boy was led to the bastille—the trail blazed with mother's salty tears. She is still here, straining every nerve to gain her boy's freedom, though she says, "I would not perjure myself or frustrate the law."

While her son broods in the cell she is not only praying Charles may escape the prison cells but is abetting her prayers with tangible efforts.

INDIANS HOLDING OUT.

Not Likely That Trouble is Over for Reinforcements Have Come.

Cortez, Col., Feb. 23.—An attempt by the Piute Indians to escape in the Cottonwood canyon, where they are surrounded by a federal posse, resulted in a desperate battle. Three more redmen were killed and several whites were wounded.

It was learned at noon that the Indians had been reinforced by warriors from the Navajo reservation who have been missing since Sunday and it is said in have joined the renegades.

OLD OREGONIAN DIES.

Man Who Established First Bank in the State Is Called.

Jacksonville, Ore., Feb. 23.—C. C. Beekman, aged 87, who established the first bank in Oregon, died last night.

NORTH POWDER CASE DECIDED

MILL COMPANY RIGHTS AGAIN
SET OUT

Petition for Rehearing Brings out Reiteration of Decision.

Salem, Feb. 23.—In the matter of determining the relative rights of the waters of the North Powder river and tributaries in Baker and Union counties which came up on petition for a rehearing of the former opinion was adhered to in a decision by the supreme court today.

In the first opinion the supreme court held that during the eight weeks of the Summer in which the mill company formerly had not used the water, the rights of those farmers who obtained rights subsequent to those of the mill company, became first rights for that period of time and that neither the mill company, nor the other farmers to whom the mill company attempted to transfer its alleged superior rights, for that portion of time, could use the water if the said farmers who first obtained their rights by use of water subsequent to the rights of the mill company. The mill company claimed upon rehearing that years ago the courts had allowed it the exclusive use of a certain number of inches of water and that the first decision of the court in the present case deprived it of rights awarded it by the courts in the early litigation. The supreme court however, by its denial, of the petition for a rehearing, and its adherence to the first opinion, overrules this contention.

Crawford & Eakin of La Grande represented certain farmers who win by the decision.

DINNER IS POSTPONED.

Too Much to Arrange for Friday, Hence March 5th Is Set.

There are so many courses coming up for the "Made in Union county" dinner to be served by the Commercial club soon, that the original date of next Friday night did not give ample time for preparation and March 5th has been set.

OIL LANDS OF THE WEST CAN BE PROTECTED

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS
TAFT'S ACTION IN WITHDRAWING
DRAWING OIL LANDS

MILLIONS INVOLVED IN LITIGATION NOW ENDED

Power of President to Withdraw from Public Entry and Self Exploitation Any Public Land Upheld Today—Midwest Oil Company Had Won in Lower Court—Big Interests Hit.

BIG CASES DECIDED TODAY.

Oil lands withdrawal held legal. Ohio screen law constitutional. Ohio and Kansas moving picture censorship legal. Eight hour law applies to California waitresses and nurses.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The supreme court today handed down a decision sustaining an order issued by William H. Taft when he was president, withdrawing from public entry and private exploitation 8,000,000 acres of oil lands in California and Wyoming, valued at millions.

Power of the President to withdraw lands from public entry without specific authority from Congress was involved in the decision of the high court today. Development of oil lands of the public domain by private capital to the exclusion of the government was sought by the Midwest and other oil concerns disputing former President Taft's order. On September 27, 1909 Taft approved an order of the Secretary of the Interior withdrawing 8,041,000 acres of petroleum land in California and Wyoming from public entry under the mineral or non-mineral land laws. Of these 2,871,000 acres were in California and 170,000 acres in Natrona county, Wyoming.

In March 1910, entrymen claimed the Wyoming land, despite the executive order denying private development of the land. Large and valuable petroleum deposits were discovered. To validate the President's future action, Congress passed a law in June, 1910, permitting withdrawals by the President. Since that time the oil lands withdrawn in California, Wyoming, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah aggregated over 4,000,000 acres practically all known oil lands in the public domain. That the government needed the oil for the navy was the statement of Taft in his order. The withdrawals were made upon the recommendation of the Navy Department and the Geological Survey.

That Taft's order was void because no statute expressly gave such reservation authority to the President before 1910 was the contention of the Midwest Oil company and other private interests. The government brought objection suits against occupants of the Wyoming land involved. The federal district court of Wyoming dismissed the government's suit, decreeing that Taft exceeded his authority, and the government appealed to the Supreme Court.

Waitresses Win Point.

Application of California's eight-hour day for women to hotel waitresses, was sustained by the supreme court in two test cases today. The tribunal also held the law was applicable to hospital nurses and women pharmacists in hospitals.

Ohio's coal screen law giving the state Industrial Commission indirect authority to regulate wages of miners and prescribing the maximum impure substances which may be allowed in weighing coal was declared by the court to be valid.

This decision settles the protest of the coal operators against the Ohio law prohibiting the use of screens to lessen the amount sent up out of the mines in mine cars, on which the pay of the miners was based. The law also requires the miners and their employers to agree upon the stipulated periods on the percentage of fine coal commonly known as nut, pea, dust, and slack allowable in the output, and in the absence of such an agreement empowers the Commission to step in and determine these amounts.

Movie Censor Valid. The court also held that the Ohio moving picture censorship laws are constitutional. The same applied to the Kansas law.

Whether a censorship over moving picture films interferes with the Constitutional right of free speech and free press, and whether such a censorship interferes with the rights of interstate shipments were two of the

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REV. JAMES M. DARNELL, "THE MARRYING PARSON."

Rev. James Morrison Darnell, he young Unitarian minister, who has been called the "marrying parson," is under arrest in Chicago, under the Mann White Slave Act. Ruth Sopher, fatherhood of whose six-months-old son Darnell has admitted, was named in the warrant. Darnell was charged with transporting here from Owatonna, Minn., to Chicago and from Chicago to Kenosha, Wis., on Nov. 20, 1914, "for immoral purposes." In January the church trustees became suspicious of Darnell's past life. An investigation resulted in his departure from Kenosha at 3 o'clock one morning, after resigning. He went direct to the home of Doris Vaughn Darnell, where he insisted he had never been married to any other woman. The child wife for several days held her confidence in Darnell, but when Ethel Spurgeon "Darnell" of Avon, Ill., showed a marriage certificate and then divorce papers which had got her freedom from Darnell, Doris Vaughn Darnell obtained a divorce. Darnell immediately met Ruth Sopher and they tried in North Dakota and Minnesota to obtain a marriage license but failed.