

La Grande Evening Observer

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER -- PRINTS THE NEWS THE DAY

1917

VOLUME XVI

LA GRANDE, OREGON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1917.

NUMBER 172.

LAWSON WILL NOT DIVULGE LEAK SOURCE

TELLS HOUSE COMMITTEE MORE POWERFUL BODY MUST INVESTIGATE.

FINANCIER HINTS AT MAKING BIG EXPOSE

Says Exposure Would Be Disastrous to Nation and Administration But Gives No Information—Committee Is Urged to Declare Lawson in Contempt and to Punish Him.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 9.—(United Press)—Thomas W. Lawson refused to name his leak source. He told the house rules committee he would expose the leak, provided a more powerful investigating body takes charge. He asserted he would reveal the name of the "high official." He said exposure would be "disastrous to the nation and administration."

Lawson declared he wanted to probe Wall Street to the bottom. He dodged all questions.

Two members presented motions providing that Lawson be adjudged guilty of contempt and punished. The committee deferred action.

Citizens Receive Their Final Papers

Yesterday was naturalization day in the courthouse and the following were granted their final citizenship papers by Judge Knowles:

Emil Niederer, formerly a subject of Switzerland; Rudolph Becker, formerly a subject of Germany; Daniel Tanner, formerly a subject of Great Britain; Adolph Christman, formerly a subject of Switzerland; Francis C. Conner, formerly a subject of Great Britain; Norman Desilet, formerly a subject of Canada; John Patrick Donovan, born on the Isle of Wight and formerly a subject of Great Britain.

Harry Thaw Is Again In Toils of The Law

Grand Jury Indicts Him on Charge of Kidnapping a Youth and Taking Him From California to New York.

New York, Jan. 9.—(United Press)—The grand jury indicted Harry Thaw on a charge of kidnapping and assault. It is alleged he lured Frederick Gum, of sixteen, to New York from Long Beach, Calif., took him to the McAlpin Hotel, tied him up and thrashed him with a whip. Thaw is reported as living at Hotel Belgravia, Philadelphia.

A warrant for his arrest is en route there.

TESTIFIES THAT RAILROADS BOUGHT ARMS AND MUNITIONS

Washington, D. C., Jan. 9.—(United Press)—W. H. Doak, vice-president of the Brotherhood Railway Trainmen told the Newlands' committee that many railroads had bought arms and ammunition and hired strike breakers while the strike situation was tense. The Newlands' committee is handling Wilson's railroad legislation program.

COLORADO WILL TREBLE SUPPLY OF RADIUM

Denver, Jan. 8.—(United Press)—The ores of Southwestern Colorado will double or treble the world's supply of radium, according to a statement issued today by the expert at the State School of Mines at Golden. The report declares that the ore accessible in Southern Colorado and in the La Sal mountains in Utah contains nearly 200 grains of radium, or nearly three times the world's present supply.

The carnotite fields of Utah and Colorado already have produced about one-half the world's supply of radium.

Chief of Police Arraigned.

Chicago, Jan. 9.—(United Press)—Police Chief Healy was arraigned in municipal court charged with conspiracy and corruption. The case was continued ten days.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED ON ENTERTAINMENT OF VISITORS IN APRIL

Cattle and Horse Men Are to Be Guests of La Grande, April 24 and 25—Committees Are Appointed to Look After Various Features of the Program to Be Given.

A large attendance was present at the meeting of the entertainment committee of the Cattle and Horse Raisers' convention to be held in La Grande April 24 and 25.

In the absence of F. E. Stilwell, chairman of the committee, Clarke Leiter was asked to preside.

The main business of the meeting was a discussion of entertainment features and the appointing of sub-committees to investigate and make plans for holding various features of the entertainment already decided upon.

These committees are: Cowboys Breakfast—F. E. Stilwell, chairman; Fred J. Holmes, F. L. Lilly, C. B. Miller and Fred B. Currey. School entertainment—Linden McCullough and A. C. Hamton.

Smoker—C. D. Emahiser and Park-

er. Livestock parade—Albert. Hunter, chairman; Ted Ludlam, A. W. Nelson, W. D. McCarthy, W. H. Ledbetter, and G. L. Larison.

Headquarters—Fred. B. Currey. It was decided to ask the ladies of the Neighborhood Club to co-operate in the entertainment of the wives of the delegates.

The entertainment committee will make its report at the meeting of the general committee on January 15.

A. W. Nelson extended an offer on behalf of the Dokes, the uniformed branch of the K. P. lodge, to take part in the program and to assist in any way possible to make the convention a success. This offer was thankfully received and the committee hopes for other offers.

Auto Catches on Fire in Snowdrift: Burns

Sacks Put Underneath Touring Car of Grover Grimmett Catch on Fire and Flames Cause Gasoline Tank to Explode.

Fire arising from an overheated engine, destroyed the large Hudson touring car belonging to Grover Grimmett yesterday morning. Mr. Grimmett was driving over the present almost impassable roads when the car became stalled in a deep snow drift and in an endeavor to pull out he put sacks under the wheels of the car. These caught on fire from sparks from the exhaust and the fire spread to the car which was impossible to extinguish owing to the heavy wind which swept the valley yesterday. The vacuum tank near the engine exploded spreading the flames over the entire car which was practically a total loss within a very few minutes. The car was practically new being purchased from the local agent last June and had only been driven a few thousand miles. Mr. Grimmett had the machine fully insured with Chas. H. Reynolds of the Security Land & Savings Co., which loss makes the second for La Grande people within the last year. Mr. Bert Hughes having lost his new Grant car last September.

PRESIDENT WILSON TALKS TO SUFFRAGETTES

Washington, Jan. 9.—(United Press)—President Wilson met several hundred suffrage women today and expressed regret so many suffragists had not realized the Democratic party was friendly to their cause. He declared himself unable to render them further aid, although personally he was an ardent suffrage supporter.

LEVEE COLLAPSES AND LIVES ARE REPORTED LOST

Alameda, Cal., Jan. 9.—(United Press)—Northern levee protecting the municipal reclamation project collapsed. Two boys are reported drowned. Factory lands are inundated. Mud avalanche covered S. P. tracks. Million dollars worth of property is endangered.

FOUND—A COST DECLINE —IT'S IN EDUCATION

Lawrence, Kan., Jan. 8.—At least one thing—education—is cheaper than a year ago, according to University of Kansas figures which show that the cost of educating a student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences here is six dollars less than in 1915.

GOVERNOR WITHYCOMBE SENDS IN HIS MESSAGE TO THE LEGISLATURE

NEEDS OF STATE INSTITUTIONS ARE POINTED OUT—HOW THE STATE BUDGET CAN BE TRIMMED WITHOUT IMPAIRING EFFICIENCY—RESULT OF STATE FLAX EXPERIMENT—THE GOOD ROADS MOVEMENT.

Greeting.

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE:

As citizens of a great commonwealth we owe a debt of gratitude to the Omnipotent One for the general prosperity and happiness of our people. We have been blessed with a bountiful harvest and increased industrial activity which brings plenty and contentment to the home.

It is with sincere pleasure that I greet the old and new members of this Legislature, meeting once again to lay the foundations for another two years of State administration. Oregon is to be congratulated upon the high type of capable citizenship represented here. There are difficult problems to be met, but I am confident the members of this body are equipped to solve them with intelligent foresight, fearless honesty and public spirited patriotism.

This, I trust, is to be a session of businesslike accomplishment and wise economy productive of needed legislation only. There is opportunity to establish a record for excellence, sanity and brevity. Such, I am sure, would be appreciated by the citizens of the State and would best fulfill existing requirements.

Decentralization. In my inaugural message attention was directed to decentralization, which has developed in Oregon governmental procedure during the last decade, and now again it seems fitting to refer to this tendency.

In a large measure Oregon has a commission form of government. The Governor has been more and more divested of authority. As a member of the Board of Control, in most important State matters he has identically the same power to obtain the results he desires, as other members of the Board, although the public vests him with a far larger measure of responsibility.

I believe this tendency toward decentralization is ill-advised, that it works against the best interests of the State, and that the resulting decrease of individual responsibility lessens efficiency in public service. This matter is presented, not because I happen to be the Executive and seek increase of political power, nor to urge immediate drastic action, but rather to point out a tendency which, in my opinion, will entail increasingly harmful results.

Penitentiary Administration. The penitentiary properly should be under the Governor's jurisdiction. He should either directly control its administration or be empowered to appoint a non-salaried civil board of supervision, as is done in many states. The constitution gives the Executive the exclusive pardoning and parole powers. He and no one else regulates the release of prisoners, and is in a measure responsible for their subsequent conduct. He must be familiar with their records in the institution and the conditions surrounding them there, as these facts naturally bear upon the application of executive clemency.

In other words, the Governor, more than anyone else, is directly concerned in the details of prison administration.

Budget Reductions.

The State budget calls for appropriations totaling \$715,382.00 more than can be raised under the provisions of the recent Constitutional Amendment. The situation can be met only by pruning the budget estimates in conjunction with the creation of new revenue. Both these are subjects which should be approached cautiously, considered with painstaking care and acted upon without bias.

Below are listed the amounts asked under twenty-one heads together with the amount which I believe can be deducted from each estimate without impairing the essential activities of the department in question:

	Amount asked	Proposed reduction
State Fair Board	\$225,800.00	\$105,000.00
University of Oregon	231,536.00	131,000.00
University of Oregon Medical School	138,820.00	10,000.00
Bounty on wild animals	90,000.00	25,000.00
Child Labor and Industrial Welfare Commissions, (to be placed under Industrial Accident Commission)	12,000.00	12,000.00
State Board of Health, and Social Hygiene Society, (to be combined under Board of Health)	84,588.00	30,000.00
Dairy and Food Commissioner	40,800.00	5,000.00
Livestock Sanitary Board	45,060.00	5,000.00
Forestry	60,000.00	15,000.00
Banking	10,000.00	10,000.00
Mines and geology	50,000.00	15,000.00
State Engineer and Water Board	108,966.00	31,000.00
Public Service	89,100.00	7,000.00
Tax Commission	30,000.00	15,000.00
Weights and Measures	8,450.00	5,000.00
Penitentiary (maintenance)	120,768.00	10,000.00
State Hospital (maintenance)	374,880.00	20,000.00
Legislative Assembly	75,000.00	10,000.00
		\$461,000.00

*Combined appropriation.

While the details of the retrenchment program above set forth may be largely modified and revised, and other fields for economy doubtless discovered, I believe the general schedule will be found meritorious.

The total amount eliminated is \$461,000.00. To reinforce this saving I further propose legislation which will increase the State's revenue some \$260,000.00, making a total of expenditure eliminated and new funds created during the biennium of \$721,000.00.

Following is a brief statement, or explanation, of the various items covered in the proposed budget reductions:

The \$120,000.00 suggested for the State Fair Board, should be sufficient to provide for the framework of a coliseum whose interior could be equipped temporarily, and also for premiums and other necessary expenses.

While no departments of State administration are more fundamentally important, and none have been more creditably conducted than our educational institutions, I feel that under existing circumstances the appropriations asked by the University and College, are more than can properly be allowed at this time. I therefore suggest an equal appropriation of \$100,000.00 to each of these two institutions, thereby, eliminating from the budget, as now prepared, the sum of \$131,000.00.

The bounties on wild animals might well be reduced about twenty-five per cent, which would accomplish the desired saving of \$25,000.00.

The work of the Child Labor and Industrial Welfare Commissions, which is more or less purely legislative, may well be handled by the Industrial Accident Commission's organization without additional cost, thereby eliminating the present appropriations of the two commissions named. An advisory council representing the social features should cooperate with the commission.

The State Board of Health can conduct the work of the Social Hygiene Society with greatly reduced overhead cost and without lessening efficiency. Here also the interests of the Social Hygiene work should be represented by a committee cooperating with the Board to the end that the meritorious activities of the former may in nowise be neglected.

I believe the appropriation for the Dairy and Food Commissioner can be reduced without curtailing the efficiency of his department. In this connection I suggest that the Commissioner's work be more exclusively devoted to the dairying interests under his jurisdiction, and that an arrangement be made whereby the subject of food inspection shall be transferred to the State Board of Health.

It is believed that the cut suggested can be made without impairing the activities of the Livestock Sanitary Board.

While the Forestry Department is rendering important service, I believe its administration costs can be reduced, and that if anything, they should be met more by the timber owners, who are the chief beneficiaries, and less by the tax-paying public.

The Banking Department is now practically self-supporting and the appropriation asked for can be eliminated.

A cut in the expenditure of the Department of Mines and Geology, is, I believe, justified.

In view of the fact that the State is not conducting any constructive work, as irrigation and water power development is comparatively inactive and as water right adjudications are largely completed, it appears that the State Engineer's office and Water Board are costing considerably more than they should.

The reductions suggested for the Public Service Commission can be effected, I believe, through the application of close economy without impairing efficiency.

(Continued on Page Six)

NATIONAL PAY UP WEEK TO BE CELEBRATED IN LA GRANDE IN FEBRUARY

Merchants, Business Men and Professional Men Agree to Take Part in National Campaign to Increase the Circulating Power of the Dollar—Slogan Is "I'll Pay My Bills So You Can Pay Yours."

Forty merchants, professional men and business men met last night at the Y. M. C. A. and decided to join in a "Pay-Up Week" in La Grande, Feb. 19 to 24.

This is a national campaign, and the national committee in charge is corresponding with the local business men of La Grande so as to induce them to take up the movement.

The idea is: "I'll pay my bills so you can pay yours."

If one man pays a dollar to another, and he in turn pays that dollar to cancel one of his debts, and the third keeps it in circulation, it means that the rapidity of the circulation of the dollar is so stimulated as to do more than its ordinary amount of work.

It is believed that this "pay up" week will greatly increase the circulation of money in the community and throughout the nation so that everyone will benefit.

Furthermore, during "Pay-Up Week," all of the merchants will put on specials and attractive window displays, and make special inducements to stimulate sales. The advantage will thus be given to their customers, who will be enabled to pick up bargains that week in many different lines. Some of the professional men will make special prices on their services for this week.

The meeting last night was well handled and developed considerable interest.

"Pay-Up Week" will be well advertised, and the merchants will carry out their slogan "I'll Pay My Bills So You Can Pay Yours."

Today a committee is calling on the merchants and professional men who were not present at last night's meeting and put the finishing touches on the campaign, which will be full of pep and ginger. Members of this committee are Frank Conner, chairman; Harris French, George Gilbert, Al V. Andrews, C. D. Putnam, W. R. Jones and E. E. Polack.

Automobile Bandits Rob S. P. Station

Also Rob Stores in Piru, Ventura County, Then Battle With Citizens' Posse.

Los Angeles, Jan. 9.—(United Press)—Three bandits robbed the Southern Pacific station and stores in Piru, Ventura county. A citizen's posse acted and battled with the bandits on the street. One raider was wounded. Companions carried him to automobile. They fled toward Los Angeles. Poses left here endeavoring to intercept them.

JAMES R. GARFIELD ROBBED OF \$10,000 IN JEWELS

Cleveland, Jan. 9.—(United Press)—James R. Garfield reported that ten thousand dollars worth of jewels had been stolen from his home while his family was absent December 1st to 20th.

THE WEATHER

The United States weather forecast follows: Partly cloudy, cooler tonight; west winds.

Miss Mary Watson Visits La Grande

Members of Extension Department of University of Oregon Will Address Neighborhood Club—Will Speak at High School Tomorrow.

Miss Mary Watson of the extension department of the University of Oregon spoke before the aesthetic department of the Neighborhood Club this afternoon. Her subject was "Ruskin". Tomorrow morning at nine she will deliver a public address in the high school auditorium. Miss Watson is spending a week in eastern Oregon speaking to audiences in different cities. She arrived this morning from Pendleton. Thursday she will be in Baker and Friday in The Dalles. From The Dalles she will return to Eugene.

It was through the efforts of the La Grande ladies that the extension department was induced to send her to Eastern Oregon.

LEGISLATURE HEARS ADDRESS OF GOVERNOR

SPECIAL COMMITTEES ESCORT OFFICIALS AND JUDGES TO LEGISLATIVE HALL.

GOVERNOR STARTS READING MESSAGE AT 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Representative Brownell Reopens Columbia River Fishing Controversy—Bill Prohibiting Paying Initiative and Referendum Circulators Introduced—Senator Pierce on Important Committees.

Salem, Jan. 9.—(United Press)—The Senate and House met in joint session this afternoon to hear Governor Withycombe's address. Committees escorted the Governor, Supreme Court Judges, and all elective State officials to the House of Representatives hall.

The Governor started reading his message at 2 o'clock.

Representative Brownell of Clackamas, reopened the Columbia River fishing controversy. He introduced a bill repealing chapter 188 of the laws of 1915. This chapter provided joint Oregon and Washington legislation regulating the Columbia fisheries.

Bowman of Washington, introduced a bill prohibiting initiative and referendum petition circulators from receiving wages. It provides one month to one year imprisonment.

Ten Senate bills were introduced this morning.

The House appointed Joe Ingram, Harold Brownson, Marie Briggs pages.

President of the state senate Gus C. Moser of Portland broke all precedents by naming his committee members the first day of the session. Walter M. Pierce of La Grande has been placed on the federal relations assessment and taxation, claims, penal institutions, printing and the revision of laws committees. Senator C. A. Barrett of Athena has been put on the agriculture, assessment and taxation, commerce and navigation, roads and highways, and ways and means committees.

Rural Credit Bill Introduced.

Salem, Jan. 9.—(Special)—M. D. Shanks, joint member of the state senate from Gilliam Sherman and Wheeler, yesterday had the honor of introducing the first bill in the Senate of the present session.

The bill, Senate number one, is a measure to make effective the rural credits constitutional amendment adopted by the people in November and carries an appropriation of \$5000. Senator Shanks' bill provides for the office of superintendent of farm loans at an annual salary of \$2400. The office is appointive and the occupant is to serve at the pleasure of the state land board.

Germans Wrathful at Ambassador Gerard

Advocates of Ruthless Submarining Say He Is Meddling in Germany's Internal Affairs—Speech Criticized.

Amsterdam, Jan. 9.—(United Press)

—It is reported from Berlin that advocates of ruthless submarining have violently denounced Ambassador Gerard's speech before the American Commerce Trade association banquet. Baron Reventlow has accused Gerard of meddling in Germany's internal affairs. Other leaders are urging Gerard's recall. They object to Gerard praising officials who favor restricted submarining.

Germans Capture Calreska.

Berlin, via Sayville, Jan. 9.—(United Press)—It is announced that the marins, after hand to hand street fighting. Fifty-five hundred prisoners were taken, three cannon and ten machine guns. On the western front heavy artillery fighting is reported.

German Trench Raid Fails.

Paris, Jan. 9.—(United Press)—It is announced that a German trench raid north of Ribecourt failed following a heavy bombardment. Elsewhere it is quiet.

Air Is Mild Today.

The air is mild and warm today. The chinook is slowly melting the snow.