

## SERIOUS SITUATION IS HERE

**WATERWORKS BADLY NEEDED BY CITY — PLANS FOR NEW ONE TALKED.**

**CITY CHARTER MAY NEED AMENDING TO SELL BONDS**

**Beaver Creek Dam Liable to Go Out Any Minute and Create Serious Problem for La Grande—Pumping Capacity at Present Only Fifty Per Cent Sufficient.**

Immediate construction of a new waterworks system for La Grande will give employment to hundreds of men and do more to relieve the unemployment situation than any other course the city can follow, according to George Garrett, city manager, at the meeting of the city commission last night, when ways and means for providing public work for the idle men in La Grande were discussed.

While the entire commission, as well as those residents present at the meeting, realize the importance of securing a water supply that is adequate, some difficulty may be encountered because of the charter provisions which limit the amount of bonded indebtedness the city can incur to 10 per cent of its assessed valuation. It was stated by J. D. Slater, city attorney. The valuation is about half a million dollars and at present there is outstanding in general city obligations the sum of \$214,000, leaving only \$286,000 available for the water works. Estimates made last year, which were, however, considered high, placed the cost of an adequate system for the city at \$750,000. Mr. Garrett stated last night that he believed that three months from now work could be started.

"Hanging By Eyebrows." The seriousness of the situation confronting the city was pointed out last night when the present dam at Beaver Creek was characterized as "hanging by its eyebrows," and when it was reported by one of the commissioners that the caretaker always goes to the top of the hill at night to guard against the dam going out.

Mr. Garrett read a letter and contract from Burns & McDonald, water works engineers of Kansas City, who made an offer to handle the engineering work in constructing a new water works system. He also stated that he had had representatives of several other consulting engineering firms here and that further offers would be received within a few days for the commissioners' consideration at the next meeting. Preliminary engineering work would be started within ten days of the signing of the contract with the firm whose proposition Mr. Garrett laid before the commissioners last evening, in case their contract is accepted.

**Pumping Capacity Limited.** President Grandy, of the commission, stated that in case the dam at Beaver Creek went out now, the pumping capacity would be only half enough to supply the city with water. "We've got the water," he declared, "if we only want to take the trouble to go after it."

Brue Dennis suggested to the commission that the city at once install sufficient pumping capacity to take care of the city while the new system is being built.

**Look to Future.** It was also pointed out at the meeting that a pipeline could be built now, and provisions made for making the supply sufficient for a city of 40,000, and that if the city did not grow sufficiently to use such a large supply, within a reasonable time the surplus could be used for irrigation in the valley.

**Pessimism Dispelled.** Although some pessimism voiced itself when the matter of the bonds that would be necessary for the water system financing were discussed because of the inability to market bonds last year for other work, Mr. Garrett informed the meeting that he had an informal offer of 95 per cent from a bonding house in Portland in case the water system is built this year. Mr. Garrett stated that he believes that this is encouraging and indicates that if enough bids were asked for the bonds, it might be possible to secure par.

**PANAMA REFUSES TO ACCEPT ARBITRATION.** WASHINGTON, Mar. 10.—Panama refuses to accept the arbitration award made by Justice White of the United States supreme court as a basis of peace with Costa Rica, it is learned from the United States government. The reply was made public by the state department.

## AMERICAN TROOPS ARE TO REMAIN

**AMERICANS OCCUPY POSITION UNDER THE ARMISTICE**

**Secretary Weeks and State Department Announce That U. S. Troops Are Standing Pat.**

WASHINGTON, Mar. 10.—The American troops on the Rhine are standing pat, said Secretary Weeks, and the state department expressed a similar attitude as to the situation which is growing out of the allied advance. The American troops occupy their positions under the armistice terms, not the treaty.

## HISTORIC THEME IN OPERETTA

**HIGH SCHOOL BOYS AND GIRLS TO STAGE "PRISCILLA"**

**Famous Story of Miles Standish and John Alden to Be Told in Music Next Week.**

The daily rehearsals for "Priscilla," the operetta to be given under the direction of the musical department of the high school the latter part of next week, are progressing well and Miss Francis Birney, in charge of the production, assisted by E. D. Towler, head of the physics department of the high school, expect to give the public a production that will compare favorably with any similar one ever put on here.

The setting and plot of the operetta is historical and goes back to the days of Governor Bradford in New England. Characters familiar to all appear on the stage—Miles Standish, John Alden, Priscilla and Governor Bradford among them.

Miss Geneva Smith will play one of the principal roles, that of Priscilla. Governor Bradford will be played by Leo Shannon, and Ted Larson will be seen as Miles Standish. John Alden will be played by Delbert Snyder. Alfred Meyers plays Higgins, Thelma Cheate is to be seen as Faith. Resignation falls to the lot of Buclah Smith, while Mildred Lovett plays Barbara. Squanto, an Indian, will also appear in the cast, but no definite decision has been reached yet as to who will play that role.

The choruses will be made up of members of the boys and girls glee clubs. The date of the play will be announced in a few days. Friday probably being the date that will be decided on.

## PENSIONS HAVE BEEN SECURED

WASHINGTON, Mar. 10.—Congressman Hawley has secured the following pensions for applicants in his district at this session: Charles A. Bills, Newport; Harold A. Salisbury, Salem; William W. Shortridge, Cottage Grove; Mrs. Katherine Retter, McMinnville; Mrs. Mary Silvers, Roseburg; Nathaniel N. Robbins, Oregon City; Isaac Morris, Bandon; Mrs. Caroline Haines Willis, Roseburg; Mrs. Sophia E. McKinney, Cottage Grove; Mrs. Henrietta Brewer, Medford; Mrs. Etta Hall, Roseburg; Mrs. Millie Cider, Newport; John E. Coleman, Salem; Benjamin F. McKee, Woodburn; Mrs. Ann E. Stephens, Forest Grove; William Bell, Roseburg; George W. Doney, Myrtle Point; Mrs. Thirza M. Dolph, Eugene. Congressman McArthur has secured residents of Portland and adjacent territory pensions as follows: June Macdonald, Alice G. Hudson, Mary R. Millinger, Christ L. Einkopf, Mary A. Adair, March Agard, Robert Sweeney, Cynthia Rudler, Osgood, Ann Smith, Anna M. Amer.

## GIRLS' RALLY IS SATURDAY

Next Saturday beginning at 9:30 a. m., there will be an all-day rally for girls in Union county. This rally is just a forerunner in preparation of the girls' conference which convenes later in the spring. A splendid program has been arranged and Mrs. Nivens, the State President of the Girls' Conference, will be here with prominent part on the program. All girls in La Grande are asked to be present and a good time is assured them. There will be a banquet at 6 o'clock in the evening and later there will be a reception for the mothers and daughters, when the program will be continued.

## GRADE AND WORK ROADS IS THE PLAN

**UNION COUNTY DELEGATION NOT GIVEN CHANCE TO TALK HARSHURFACING.**

**DOUGLAS COUNTY IS BLAMED FOR DELAY**

**State Highway Commission Wants to Finish the Old Oregon Trail to Ontario by Grading and Graveling—Commission Will Work Hereafter on 50-50 Propositions.**

PORTLAND, Mar. 10.—The state highway session continued meeting today. In executive session, the requests made the past two days were considered.

The commission will start Tuesday on a tour of the Pacific highway to the California line. As quickly as possible the state highway commission wants to finish the Old Oregon Trail to Ontario by grading and graveling. A blanket order has been issued to the engineering department to prepare for advertising every section as soon as a section is ready.

The commission wants to build a highway from Roseburg by way of Coos and Curry counties to the California state line. This program is being held up by the attitude of Douglas county.

**50-50 Offer Required.** Hereafter the commission will consider only propositions where the counties offer a 50-50 co-operation, with a few rare exceptions where counties have small population and are impoverished.

These were statements made at yesterday's meeting of the commission, Union Work Advised.

Union county's delegation was informed that everything has been ordered advertised from Kamela to La Grande for the April meeting. This is on the old Oregon trail. A proposition to macadamize the six miles between Union and Telecast on a 50-50 basis was taken under advisement. The section from Hot Lake to Union is advertised for grading and gravel for the April meeting and for April the Telecast-North Powder section is ordered for surfacing. The delegation wanted to discuss hard surfacing, but the commission replied that the main ambition of the state board now is to grade and rock the entire highway to Ontario, the terminus at the Oregon state line. Town, county and state made a tentative agreement to build the road through the town of Union.

**Wallawa Asks Help.** Wallawa county asked aid on the forest section of the Flora-Enterprise road. Unless a grade is rocked there is a prospect of losing the grade, forestry officials explained. Decision was reserved until later.

Among the contracts awarded were the Huntington-Nelson section, Baker county, two bridges over Burnt river, Illinois Bridge company, \$28,651. Huntington-Nelson section, Baskin county, bridge across Burnt river, Lindstrom & Feigensner, \$39,622.

**PORTLAND MARKETS.** PORTLAND, Mar. 10.—All of the local markets remained steady today.

## SENATE WILL DEFER ACTION UNTIL APRIL

**COLOMBIAN TREATY NOT TO BE CONSIDERED NOW.**

**D. H. Crissinger, of Marion, Ohio, Personal Friend of Harding, Is Comptroller of Currency.**

WASHINGTON, Mar. 10.—The senate has agreed to defer action on the Colombian treaty until the April session.

D. H. Crissinger, of Marion, O., a lawyer, banker and lifelong friend of President Harding, has been nominated for comptroller of currency. The senate has confirmed the nomination of Dr. Sawyer, Harding's personal physician, as brigadier-general of the medical reserve corps.

## CITY'S FATE IN BALANCE

**INSURGENTS HAVE TAKEN PART OF PETROGRAD.**

**Acute Food Situation Forces Three Bolshevik Troops to Join the Revolutionary Forces.**

LONDON, Mar. 10.—Reports regarding the Russian and soviet government continue to be conflicting. Telsingford dispatches say that the Russian agency there declares the fate of Petrograd to be still in the balance. The reports say the insurgents have taken part of the city, which is under fire from Kronstadt, that is also being shelled by the Bolshevik batteries at Boukovo.

**FOUR MEN KILLED.**

BELEFAST, Mar. 10.—Four men who had incurred the displeasure of the Sinn Fein, were killed near here on Tuesday night.

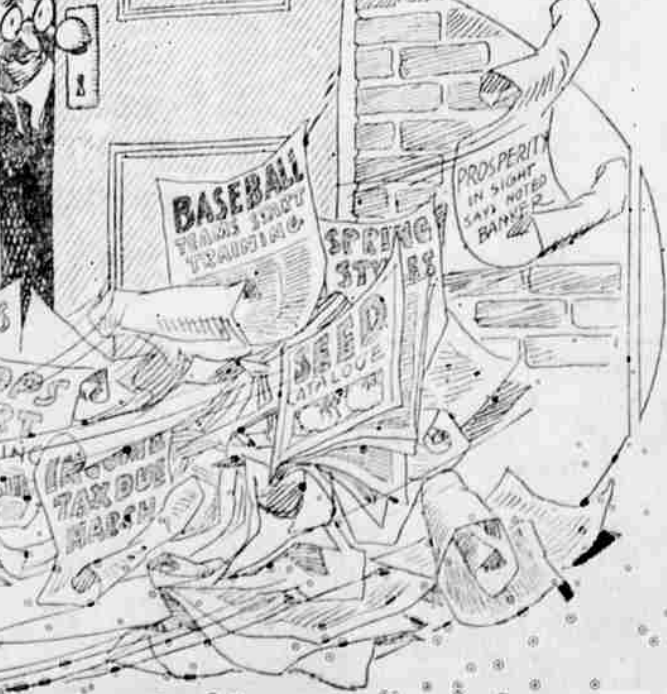
## Style Show Will Be Staged Along With The Festival

Union county is to have its first style show in years. As a special early-evening attraction to the big Spring Festival and Bazaar to be supervised by the memorial tree fund committee, which is booked for March 21 and April 1 and 2, at the Eagles' hall, styles will be on dress parade in profusion. Robert Patterson will be the generalissimo in charge of the event and the various department stores of the city are generously supporting the big feature. It will be a two-night attraction.

With but three weeks remaining, final plans for staging what the directors predict will be the stellar event of its kind in many years are being rushed to final conclusion. Special stress has been laid on the fact that the whole festival, with all its splendid entertainments, programs and novelties, is sending out a county-wide appeal for support, every organization and every individual is cordially invited to participate in every way possible, for the festival is a county and not a city affair. Any such person or organization anxious to assist, can get in touch with Mrs. G. L. Larson, general chairman. Many organizations have already done so. Organizations not previously mentioned are the Pythian Sisters, who will serve a big chicken special dinner, always a big drawing card; the Marabon Ladies; the Ladd Canyon club; the Girls Friendly Society; and the P. E. O., who have charge of the baby booth. Mrs. H. M. Bouvy and her committee will have charge of the fish pond—always a lark for the kiddies.

It is proposed to have every available space taken up by stalls and shops, that the bazaar feature may be emphasized.

The entertainment and program committees are promising something with a snap and zip to it every minute of the three nights. The show will rule the first two nights, and special entertainment will be provided in addition to this, while the closing number of each night's amusement will be an informal dance.



## FRANCE WILL ASK U.S. TO SIGN TREATY

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT.**

**FRENCH POSITION IS CONCILIATORY**

**Administration Officials at Washington Are Withholding Any Comment On the Matter, Although Secretary Hughes Talked With French Ambassador.**

PARIS, Mar. 10.—It was stated at the foreign office today that negotiations were under way between the French embassy at Washington and the state department, in an effort to induce President Harding to favor the acceptance of the modified league of nations. The French position is conciliatory.

**Hughes and Jossereau Talk.**

WASHINGTON, Mar. 10.—The administration officials are withholding comment on the French statement regarding the league of nations negotiations. The impression given, however, was that initiative in any such development rested entirely with France and that the matter had not reached the stage of negotiations. Secretary Hughes refused to discuss the matter. It became known, however, that he himself, known an hour's talk on Tuesday with French Ambassador Jossereau.

**WEATHER FORECAST.**

Tonight and Friday, occasional rain in the western portion of the state, snow or rain in the east, strong gusty winds.

## RED HATS ARE PRESENTED TO NEW CARDINALS

**ARCHBISHOP DENNIS J. DOUGHERTY AMONG HONORED**

**Princesses, Peasants, Diplomats and Citizens Are Drawn to Vatican to Witness the Presentation.**

ROME, Mar. 10.—The presentation today of the red hat to three new cardinals, Archbishop Dennis J. Dougherty, of Philadelphia; Josef Schulte, of Cologne; and Michael Von-Faulhaber, of Munich, attracted the Princesses, peasants, diplomats and citizens to the Vatican.

## Y. M. C. A. ASKS FIVE THOUSAND

**DIRECTORS DECIDE ON DRIVE THIS MONTH.**

**C. E. Short Is Chairman of Committee to Arrange Details For Raising Money.**

The local Y. M. C. A. needs \$5,000 to carry on its work. At the board of directors' meeting last evening it was decided to raise this money by popular subscriptions. The formal "drive" is to be staged March 21, 22 and 23.

C. E. Short had some good advice to offer the finance committee on how to obtain this money and make all the givers feel happy because they were given an opportunity to contribute. The finance committee passed the buck back to Mr. Short by recommending him for chairman of the committee that is to work out the details of the drive.

As his assistants Mr. Short has appointed Howard O'Brien and Elmer Stoddard and he believes that they will be able to evolve a plan for raising the necessary funds that will make all the directors feel good over the results. Mr. Short refuses to announce his tentative plans, but it is known that he has some new wrinkles he expects to work out well.

The meeting last night was attended by 14 members of the board of directors. W. W. Dillon, state secretary of the Y. M. C. A., was also present. The business meeting was held following dinner at the association building.

G. L. Larson, as chairman of the finance committee, will appoint eight district chairmen to handle the details of the drive in various parts of the city.

## MORE DRINKING, LESS DISEASE

**WEEKLY REPORT OF CITY MANAGER SHOW DISEASE WAXING.**

**Water Receipts Form Biggest Item in Money Collected by Office of Treasurer.**

There were more arrests for infractions of the liquor laws during the week ending March 5, according to the weekly report of the city manager, than for many a week—seven of the weeks thirteen arrests being listed as "drunks." Out of the 13 cases, four are still pending, a 100 per cent conviction record having been made in the other cases.

The smallpox and scarlet fever epidemic is no longer serious, according to the report. Only 9 new quarantines were established during that week and 21 houses were released.

The treasurer's office received a total of \$2,254.93 from various sources, the water department being responsible for most of this sum, \$1,332.22 being collected from this source. The disbursements of this office were \$1,829.35, the largest item being \$1,217.95, paid to the Warren Construction company.

The recorder's office reported 7 building permits, all of which were small ones and issued two peddler's licenses.

Fines in the total of \$57 were collected by the police department. The street department spent considerable time in removing dirt from paved streets and one city prisoner was used on street work during the week.

**TWO GAMES TO BE PLAYED AT "Y" TONIGHT**

Two basketball games will be played between teams in the city league this evening. The Bankers and the Hull Room Boys will meet at 8:15 and the Landmarks and the Stoddard Boys teams will meet at 9.

The games promise to be fast. Last night the Hull Room Boys and the Landmarks played one of the fastest games ever played here and they expect to give their opponent tonight a hard battle for victory.

## TO REVIVE OLD PAVING DISTRICTS

**LOCAL BANKS TO BE ASKED TO ACT AS AGENTS FOR CITY IN SELLING BONDS.**

**PLAN WOULD START MUCH PUBLIC WORK THIS MONTH**

**City Commissioners Convinced That Chances for Financing Paving Are Better Than a Year Ago and Action Is Expected Next Week—Flood of New Petitions Probable.**

The financing of street and other improvement work proved the only stumbling block to the immediate inauguration of an extensive program of work for early spring when the city commissioners met at their weekly session last evening and listened to the demands of 150 citizens who asked that a large amount of such work be done at an early date so that the hundreds of unemployed will be able to have work at once. No formal action was taken by the commissioners last evening, due to the pressure of other important matters, but it was agreed to revive the old improvement districts that have never had the work demanded by the property owners done and create such new districts as will be necessary.

**Many Petitions Expected.** At next week's meeting it is expected that numerous petitions for new districts will be presented and an actual beginning in the work is expected to follow. The two local banks will probably be appointed fiscal agents to market the bonds that will have to be issued and judging from statements made last evening a market will be found this year, although last year no market was found.

One petition for a new district was presented last evening when property owners along Oak street between O and Spring streets asked for having the street there graded, curbed and macadamized. Owners of 19 of the 24 lots on this stretch of street were the petitioners. Residents along Pennsylvania street also were present and announced their intention of asking the city to have the street rounded off with the grader and their willingness to stand the expense of hauling gravel on the street.

**Much Gravel to Be Hauled.** The latter work will be done on a number of streets where hard-surfacing will probably not be attempted this year and the Pennsylvania residents are the first ones who asked the commissioners for this work since that body decided to do that work provided the property owners guarantee paying for the gravel and hauling.

**Larson Gets Action.** After considerable discussion of the question G. L. Larson made a statement that met with the approval of all present, including the officials. "We will never sell bonds until we try, we tried last year and failed, so we must try again. I have never sold anything without trying," Mr. Larson said. This statement silenced the opposition to trying to revive the improvement districts because last year failed to produce a bidder willing to take the bonds.

Commissioner McKennon was the first official to suggest that Mr. Larson's suggestion be acted upon. In discussing the possibility of selling bonds this year, T. J. Scroggin, cashier of the United States National bank, said that he had recently received an inquiry for municipal bonds and although he would not state with certainty that the bonds could be marketed, he felt that it is very probable that they could be marketed if they met the requirements of the investors as to interest and other details.

**Start Already Made.** Bruce Dennis, representing the Ad club, voiced his approval of the course already taken by the commission in agreeing to round off the streets where property owners agree to pay for graveling and said that the city was on the right track in this matter, suggesting also that the two local banks be appointed fiscal agents for the marketing of bonds.

J. D. Slater, city attorney, pointed out the charter limitations and suggested that the charter be amended so as to break the marketing of bonds easier.

Representatives of two lodges, the Knights of Pythias and the Dolders, presented petitions last evening imploring the city commission to begin this work immediately in order to relieve the unemployment situation.

**Moscow Troops Go Over.**

RIGA, Mar. 10.—Three brigades of the Bolshevik troops in Moscow have joined the revolutionary forces, according to official reports. The action was prompted by the acute food situation.