

Local News In Brief

Any La Grande subscriber to the Observer who does not receive his paper by 8 o'clock in the evening, please call Western Union Main 24, and a special messenger will deliver a copy.

Here from Elgin—S. S. Thompson of Elgin registered at the Foley today.

Summerville Visitor—C. E. Best, who makes his home at Summerville, is in La Grande today.

Joseph Lady Here—Miss Mildred E. Hardy, of Joseph, is a La Grande visitor today. During her stay she is at the Savoy.

George Cooklin Here—George Cooklin, well-known citizen of Imbler, is in La Grande today.

At Foley—O. E. Ryder, prominent Elgin resident, arrived in La Grande yesterday and registered at the Foley. He will be here a short time.

Newspaperman Here—Roy R. McNeas, of the Pendleton Tribune, spent Sunday night in La Grande, visiting with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George McNeas. He returned to his home this morning.

Union Man Here—R. H. Rohrig, Union farmer, arrived in La Grande today. He will be here for some time as he is one of the jurors selected for this month.

At Sommer—H. W. Park, who lives in Summerville, is spending the day in La Grande and is stopping at the Sommer hotel.

Enterprise Man Here—Earl Hanna, who lives in Enterprise, registered at the Foley yesterday. He is in La Grande on business.

Grange Organizer—W. R. Gekeler, state grange organizer, left today for North Powder, where he will attend to some business during the afternoon. He will go on to Haines in the evening.

To Meet Tomorrow—The Ladies Auxiliary of the Co-Operative store will meet tomorrow afternoon at the home of Mrs. L. A. McMillan, 906 Main street.

Vincent Couple in Town—Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Palmer are registered at the Savoy today. He is a prominent lumberman of Vincent.

Mr. Whiddon Improving—Slater Whiddon, who has been very ill for the last week, is improving rapidly and soon expects to be in the best of health.

To Attend O'Shea Funeral—Mrs. Henry M. J. Turner and Mrs. John P. O'Connell left last evening for Portland to attend the funeral of Mrs. Johnnie O'Shea. Mrs. O'Shea belongs to one of Portland's most prominent families. She was related to Mrs. Jack Horan, who formerly lived in La Grande.

Returns to North Powder—Mr. and Mrs. Herman White returned to their home in North Powder this morning after spending the fore

part of the day in La Grande attending to some business. Mr. White is connected with the P. F. E. Company at North Powder.

Union Lady Here—Mrs. E. P. Geertsen, well known Union resident, spent today in La Grande doing some shopping and attending to other business.

To Hot Lake—Mrs. E. D. Malone boarded No. 24 this morning bound for Hot Lake, where she will spend a short time visiting with friends.

Returns Home—Dr. George O'Connor, retired Union physician, returned to his home this morning after spending several days in La Grande attending to property interests.

To Attend Funeral—Mrs. J. M. Chandler, of Elgin, and Mrs. Dexter Melroy, of this city, went to Milton this morning to attend the funeral of their sister, Mrs. Thos. Melroy.

Two Arrested—K. Antona and Homer Blocher were arrested yesterday charged with stealing coal. They will be arraigned before the justice of the peace either today or tomorrow.

Extended Visit—Mrs. John McPherson and son, Jack, left last evening for Portland. They will visit there and at Vancouver and expect to be gone for about a month.

Ill With La Grippe—Mrs. K. C. Parsons is quite ill at her home with the grippe. She has been sick since the latter part of last week and is improving at present but is unable to attend to her regular duties as yet.

Overcomes Difficulties—George DeLap, stage driver between Union and La Grande, made a trip this morning that he will long remember. He left the Union Hotel this morning on schedule time, 7:30 a. m., and arrived just the other side of Hot Lake still on time, despite the drifting snow, to be confronted by a freight train blocking the road. Before the train could be broken so as to enable the car to pass, another freight pulled by and the stage was delayed about fifteen minutes. From then on until he reached La Grande DeLap made a record trip considering the badly drifted condition of the road. With eleven minutes to make the branch line train he arrived about two minutes after it had pulled out. He went on to Island City in an attempt to find his passengers on the train, but after passing the train, the road was blocked by another car that was unable to pull out of a snow drift. After finally passing the truck and surmounting some snowdrifts that were nearly three feet deep, he arrived at Island City—just after the train had left. His two passengers were able to secure a sleigh to take them the remainder of the way to Summerville and Imbler. They were Hal Rees, prominent stockman, who had to arrange for the feeding of 160 head of cattle near Imbler, and Miss Eunice Gates, teacher at the Willow Creek school near Summerville.

Completing a year's service for the county the grand jury disbanded Saturday and a new one is on duty today. Before disbanded many cases were reviewed by the old jury and the report of that body to Judge Knowles follows:

We, the Grand Jury, duly empaneled at the February, 1921 Term of Court, beg leave to submit the following report: "We have examined into all of the alleged crimes that have been brought before us from any source, and have reported into court eleven true bills, and no not true bills of indictment; we have, to the best of our ability and understanding, followed the instructions of the court as to our duties; we have examined a great number of witnesses; we have made personal investigation of matters reported to us, when away from our duties; we have examined the records in the various offices and find them neatly and apparently properly kept; we have examined the City Jail of the City of La Grande; have found it in a clean and sanitary condition; we have learned that beds are being provided at this jail for men who are homeless and in indigent circumstances. This meets with our approval and we believe the City Government and Officials responsible for this act are to be commended for it. We understand that bedding has been furnished to the city officials for this purpose by the Salvation Army and from other sources. We think that these parties are entitled to public thanks for their acts. We have examined the County Jail and have found it to be in a clean and sanitary condition; we find that the prisoners are having wholesome and substantial food, furnished by the Sheriff from his own home. We visited the County Poor Farm in June of 1921, and found the farm in good condition, and being properly farmed; the quarters for the inmates, however, were not clean and sanitary; the bedding was very unsuitable and the quarters were infested with vermin. We again visited the farm during this session of the grand jury, and found conditions as to sanitation very much improved. The weather, however, is extremely cold; we found the inmates to be old men—one of them quite ill; conditions for heating are not suitable. We believe a better system of heating the building should be adopted, and under the control of the manager. The present manager appears to provide suitable food for the inmates, though we believe that it would be economy were a better cellar provided. We also believe that at very little expense the bathroom could be made much more comfortable, and we suggest that the improvement of conditions at the poor farm be given consideration by the county court during the coming year, and provisions made in next year's budget for such repair and improvement as may be necessary. We have been acting as grand jurors for one year; we now ask to be relieved from our duties as such; we particularly wish to thank Your Honor for courteous treatment received; the District Attorney for his assistance and the court officials for their favors.

TWO DEAD IN FEUD. SANTA FE, N. M., Feb. 6.—Red feeling between the Montoya and Romero families is alleged by the police to have culminated in a general fight at a dance in this city early Sunday and as a result, Modesto Romero and Raes Montoya are dead, Celestino Romero is in a local hospital in a critical condition and Delfino Montoya is in jail under a doctor's care, due to knife wounds received in the melee.

A violin maker invented the banjjo in 1562. M'KENNON GIVES CITY FIGURES. City Commissioner Alleges Past Two Years Has Been Period of Extravagance in City Administration.

Editor Observer:—Having about recovered from the scare given by reason of the threatened recall, I feel it my duty to give an account of my services which probably has to some extent given rise to the "dreaded" threat. I do not feel it necessary to go back more than four years to give a comparison of the waste and extravagance and mismanagement of city affairs. In 1920 the city employed the efficient services of one Mr. Garret, as city engineer and manager. As we have never before had from the records a statement of the money expended in the different departments, we herewith give you this information now and see if you think money has been extravagantly expended or if it was done judiciously. We will first call your attention to the varied offices of 1918 and 1919, as compared to 1920 and 1921. The following table shows the same: Spring 1920, 1921 19,210.00 Street Dept. 1918, 1919 12,285.00 Street Dept. 1920, 1921 16,420.00 Sewer Dept. 1918, 1919 187.84 Sewer Dept. 1920, 1921 3,010.00 Fire Dept. 1918, 1919 7,823.00 Fire Dept. 1920, 1921 12,241.00 Police Dept. 1918, 1919 10,172.00 Police Dept. 1920, 1921 14,276.00 Water Dept. 1918, 1919 29,121.00 Water Dept. 1920, 1921 45,746.00 And last but not least, I would call your attention to the manner in which our city is being over-engineered. Before we secured the services of this expert engineer we were employing an engineer as he was needed and paying him by the day and during the years 1918, 1919, we paid \$521.00, but during 1920, 1921, we paid \$7,140 and \$100 per month of this amount was paid our city manager for doing the engineering work in connection with the city manager's office for which he was receiving \$200 per month. You understand that this does not include the re-survey of the city which is being undertaken at a cost of from \$7,000 to \$10,000, and I undertake to say it is "like the curl in a pig's tail, neither ornamental nor useful." I want to say that I have always opposed these extra expenditures and I feel that it is due the public to know that any statements made by former reports as to the efficient and business manner of our city manager and expert engineer is hot air. We are now entering on another year of "prosperity" with a budget in excess of the amount agreed upon by our budget committee of more than \$18,000, and in the face of a cut in salaries by all other cities and corporations, La Grande is paying the same as she has paid for the last three years except I might say for one man and a team. Why should we be surprised at a raise in taxes in the face of such wanton extravagance? J. D. McKENNON, City Commissioner.

OFF WITH THE OLD ON WITH THE NEW. The only reason Prosecuting Attorney Ed Wright permitted the old grand jury to disband Saturday was because he could not under the law hold them any longer. The old jury was well organized and was working fine when one of them discovered that their year's service to the county and state was up on Saturday. "While we like you fellows," said one of the jurors, to the court officers, "we are going to 'beat it' this evening. Jury duty may have its charms but there is a lot of work to do on the farms of the valley and we are going to say farewell." There was nothing for the district attorney to do but agree, hence the official form of discharging the jury was gone through Saturday, and this morning the court has a new crop of jurors to look after the peace, health and safety of Union county. Many Plead Guilty. Whether it has been the efficient work of the grand jury or the vicious appearance of the district attorney that caused so many to plead guilty is a question which the jurors who disbanded are debating in a good natured manner. Jerome Menkel, who had waited two months in jail for the grand jury to meet, pleaded guilty to stealing some gold dust from George Gibson and was given thirty days in jail. The Elgin row in which Editor E. E. Southard, former operator of the

Recorder in that city, was shaken up by Ernest E. Vehrs resulted in Mr. Vehrs pleading guilty and paying the minimum fine of fifty dollars. John Matson, who was indicted for larceny from a residence in Union, said he was guilty and drew one year in the penitentiary. Paul Davis, colored, was charged with stealing a watch from Mr. Clawson in a rooming house, pleaded guilty. Due to a former prison record he drew a four-year sentence. Robert Potter was indicted for passing a bad check. He also has a record and he got five years. A. L. Waite, who in a wrestling match is alleged to have creased William Shaw's ear, was indicted and his trial is set for Friday of this week.

the Burch case, and Mrs. Obenchain on one occasion took Kennedy to a fortune teller for advice as to whether they would wed. About the same time, another witness declared she said "Bilton has not long to live. I can almost put my hand on the spot where it will happen." On July 17 Mrs. Obenchain wired to Burch, who was in Evanston to come to Los Angeles, adding "I need you and the friend I had last summer." Burch arrived here on July 24 bringing with him, according to the porter of his car, a shot gun case. Burch took a room in a hotel commanding a view of Kennedy's office, and watched the office windows for long periods, according to hotel employees. At other times he rented an automobile under an assumed name, and took extended trips, it was also testified. Mrs. Obenchain and Kennedy went driving the night of August 5 and about nine o'clock went to a small cottage owned by Kennedy in Beverly Glen, fifteen miles from Los Angeles. As Kennedy was mounting a flight of steps on a bank in front of the cottage two shotgun shots were fired. One struck Kennedy in the back of the neck, causing instant death, an autopsy surgeon swore.

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MRS. HENSON TO BE BURIED HERE. Former La Grande Engineer Loses Wife at Evanston, Indiana—Body on Way to This City. Telegraphic word was received here today from Henry Henson, former locomotive engineer of this city, that his wife had died in Evanston, Indiana, on February 1st, and that the body was being shipped to La Grande for burial. Arrival is expected either Wednesday or Thursday. Mr. Henson is well known here as he served for some time on the school board and was quite active in civic affairs during his residence in this city. He is a member of the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

NEW TODAY. FOR RENT—Furnished house, equipped for two families, 1418 Monroe. 2-6-11. FOR SALE—One ideal range, in good shape, \$30.00. K. Kraven, 3103 N. Fourth St. 2-6-11. NOTICE, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS. There will be a social entertainment held at the Pythian Castle Hall, Monday, February 6th. All Knights, Pythian Sisters and friends are requested to be present. SOCIAL COMMITTEE. 2-6-11.

WANTED—Sewing by day, or piece. Satisfaction guaranteed. Phone 253-W. Call 1705 Second street. 2-6-11. AGENTS Wanted for Famous 3 in 1 Shopping Bags. Fast Sellers, Good commission. Agents make from 50 to 100 dollars per week. Good territory open for producers. Send for sample. An-Moo Brokerage Co., 602 Sweetland Bldg., Portland, Ore. 2-6-11. LOST—Two large abstracts, 500 shares stock in Thompson's Malted Milk Co., which have been signed by the owner, J. C. Mack; a bank draft from State Bank of Imbler, Oregon, for \$28.00, in favor of Sam A. Kozier; and other valuable papers. Reward \$10.00. Dr. J. C. Mack. 2-6-11. LOST—Black letter bag, 5 months old. Phone 297-W. 2-6-11. FOR RENT—Two unfurnished rooms. 2001 2nd St. 2-6-11.

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Retains Ex-Husband. Mrs. Obenchain's former husband was retained by her as one of her attorneys, and they secured a marriage license some time ago and announced they would be remarried if Mrs. Obenchain is released. The prosecution contended that Burch, who was divorced last year by Mrs. Allie Quayle Burch, daughter of Bishop Matthew Burch, of St. Louis, Mo., was in love with Mrs. Obenchain and subject to her will in the alleged conspiracy.

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DANCE MEADS' DOUGHNUTS Served Hot Right Off the Kettle With Coffee At the OLD TIME DANCE At REX HALL, FEB. 8. Come and Have a Good Time N. A. Desilet, Manager

Rubbers We have just received a new shipment of all sizes of Rubber Foot Wear Goodrich and Ball Band Lines. Rubbers, Pacs, Overhoes, Boots. Clint's Clothiery. The Store With a Conscience. 1108 Adams Ave.