

RAILROAD CRISIS LOOMS

LA GRANDE BOY BOY KILLED IN TEXAS

Raymond J. Blystone Shot Five Times and Death Followed Immediately.

Raymond J. Blystone, La Grande boy, was murdered at Fort Worth, Texas, Saturday. No details have been received from authorities there other than that Mr. Blystone was shot while sitting in his automobile, at about 1:45 p. m. Saturday, five bullets having entered his body, death was instantaneous, and that the assassin had been apprehended and placed in jail.

Raymond J. Blystone has a wide circle of friends in La Grande. He spent his early school days here and after completing his high school education entered the railroad service with the O. W. R. & N., in the signal maintenance department. He was in this work for about five years during which time he worked out of La Grande and later out of Baker, Oregon. He was one of the first to enter the service from this locality as he enlisted in the aviation corps at Baker, Oregon, March 15, 1917, before war had been declared by the United States. He received promotions rapidly and was soon commissioned as a lieutenant which rank he held during his three years' service. He served as flying and machine gun instructor in several different camps and it was only the signing of the armistice that prevented him from seeing service over seas, as at that time he was in New York awaiting the sailing of the transport. After the signing of the armistice he was assigned to the air mail service of the United States and for some time carried government mail in the state of Georgia by the air route.

He was married to Lucille Miller of Jamestown, N. Y., February 6, 1918, while still in the service. After receiving his discharge from the army he located at Fort Worth, Texas, where he became interested in the oil business. He and his wife were in La Grande for a number of months, from August, 1920, to May, 1921, visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Blystone and renewing old acquaintances.

At the time of his death he was with the Apex Electrical Distributing company as their district manager at Fort Worth, Texas. Raymond Blystone was a man of splendid character and personality, who made friends readily and held them as friends. At the time of his tragic death he was thirty-two years of age. Besides his wife, Mrs. Lucille Blystone, at Fort Worth, Texas, he leaves his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Blystone, 2912 N. Fourth street, La Grande, and four sisters: Mrs. June Harper of Portland, Oregon; Mrs. Josephine Harrison, Mrs. W. K. Bevan and Miss Letha Blystone of La Grande. The body will be cremated at the San Antonio crematory, San Antonio, Texas, and the services will be held in that city, Thursday, August 11.

WILL FIX COAL PRICES

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—Federal investigators will be sent to Kentucky to fix a fair price on coal. Secretary Hoover announced today. Pending the investigation the operators agreed to \$3.75 per ton at the mine but investigators will determine a fair profit on the basis of the Garfield levels.

Deputy and Moonshiner Killed in Washington

STEVENSON, Wash., Aug. 8.—W. E. Robinson, 35, Clarke county (Washington) deputy sheriff, was shot and killed instantly in a battle with Paul Hickey, a moonshiner, in the hills three miles northeast of here, yesterday and J. A. Morgan, United States marshal, agent of Tacoma, was severely wounded by Hickey. Hickey was shot through the groin and died a few hours later, after a posse sent from here had found him lying beside his still.

Harold Abola, 22, was arrested by Sheriff Sawney of Skamania county late today and held on suspicion of being an accomplice of Hickey in the operation of the still.

Dry Agents Hunt for Still.

The battle between the moonshiners and the prohibition agents took place this afternoon about 1:30 o'clock, when Robinson and Morgan had accompanied John Piggott, federal prohibition director, of Tacoma, into the hills in search of a suspected moonshiner still.

The three officers had proceeded along a forested trail about two miles

FIRE BLIGHT WORST KNOWN

Has Been Present in Valley for Many Years But Never was Serious Before.

Fire blight which affects the apple and pear trees is worse this season than for several years, especially near Imbler, Cove and North Powder, stated H. G. Avery, county agent, this morning. It has been present in the Grande Ronde Valley for many years but has not been serious until this season.

The fire blight affects the limbs of the trees, gradually killing them from the tops down, and measures should be taken to prune diseased members within the next three weeks. All branches carrying disease should be burned promptly or they may carry disease through the winter, giving it a chance to spread in the following spring.

All instruments used in pruning the trees should be dipped in a solution of borax or sublimate, made by mixing one corrosive sublimate to one thousand parts of water.

BULLETINS

REORGANIZE GRAIN GROWERS

(By Associated Press.)
CHICAGO, Aug. 8.—Reorganization of the United States Grain Growers with resignation of all present officers includes abandonment of offer of B. F. Hale, to finance the marketing system of the growers, according to information issued today. Hale offered to back growers to the extent of a million dollars to purchase a seat on the board of trade and establish marketing facilities, but the agreement and offer have been abandoned. The growers will be able to market their grain through their new machine by September 1st, it is stated. E. H. Cunningham becomes the new president.

STUDY GERMAN FINANCES

(By Associated Press.)
LONDON, Aug. 8.—Financial reports began today studying drastic measures for the financial control of Germany provided for in the moratorium conditions which include exploitations of Germany's customs, mines, railroads, control of the Reichsbank and supervision of foreign currencies. These are to be under control of the international commission at Berlin.

ENGLAND SHIPS IN FOOD

(By Associated Press.)
HONG KONG, Aug. 8.—The British government here shipped in its second consignment of food to the stricken Swatow district today. The draft list there has grown to 28,000.

MANY BUYERS ARRIVE

(By Associated Press.)
PORTLAND, Aug. 8.—Retailers from nearly every state west of the Mississippi river resumed the rush today at registration headquarters. Accommodations for the crowd are getting scarce. They are combining business and pleasure.

CROP FORECAST MADE

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—Crop production forecast for August 1 was made public today. It shows winter wheat 542,000,000 bushels, spring wheat 263,000,000 bushels. All wheat combined, 805,000,000 bushels.

WILL MOBILIZE

(By Associated Press.)
ROME, Aug. 8.—Benito Mussolini, the Fascist leader, has ordered mobilization throughout Europe, it was announced today.

PROBLEM OF ROOMS IS PERPLEXING

Dokie Committee Cannot Estimate Number Needed as Many will Have Pullmans.

One of the most serious problems before the general committee having in charge entertainment of the Dokie convention here on September 1st and 2nd is the matter of providing rooms.

If it were just a matter of obtaining all the available rooms in the city that might be supplied through the opening of doors, the various committees would not consider it so difficult a job as it might seem. The trouble in the matter is that the committee now finds that there is nothing at all definite about how many rooms will be needed. It may be necessary to house 1,000 and it may be necessary to house only 500. The Canadian visitors, Sound cities, Spokane, Walla Walla, Lewiston and Portland delegates are coming in Pullmans and will use the Pullmans for their headquarters.

The Eastern Oregon people who are coming are in many cases bringing their own tents, expecting to sleep in the park. In the light of these uncertain propositions the committee is unable to determine anywhere near the number of rooms that will be necessary and therefore will make a careful list of enough rooms to care for those who come, upon the supposition that all are going to require accommodations. If an inadequate number of rooms are listed and then there should be a greater number coming depending on local accommodations than was expected, a very serious condition would develop. Rather than take any chances of having the good name of the city harmed through inadequate listing the committee is appealing to the public to list all available rooms so that should occasion require there would be facilities for between 1,500 and 2,000 visitors. This is the approximate number of guests who will not come in Pullmans.

On the surface it might seem an unnecessary caution to go to the trouble of listing that number of rooms when there is no definite assurance that they will be called into use, but the committee feels that the citizens of La Grande appreciate the situation and that they will offer every available room within the city limits.

Local hotels, the hotel facilities at Hot Lake, and the Union Hotel facilities will be used to house the official delegates and visitors but in addition there will be a demand for something like 1,400 or 1,500 people should all want local facilities.

SUGAR TARIFF APPROVED

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—A tariff of two and three tenths cents a pound on sugar was approved by the senate the vote being 37 to 35. Sixteen republicans voted against the tariff.

Oakman is National Representative of the Modern Woodmen Order

Bert Oakman, who is here with Mrs. Oakman, spending the vacation period he has each year, will start out in September across the nation looking after the business and interests of the Modern Woodmen Lodge of which he is national lodge. His work calls him to the large cities of the nation, but every summer he gets back to the atmosphere of the Grande Ronde valley which he and Mrs. Oakman both love very much.

A SELF-IMPOSED FRANKENSTEIN

James Rogers, who was arrested recently on the charge of passing a bad check for \$5.00, at the Merchants Restaurant, was arraigned before Justice Arthur Williams yesterday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock and plead guilty to the charges. He was bound over to await the action of the grand jury under \$200 bond.

WOODCRAFTERS WILL ORGANIZE

Boy Scouts Who are Eligible will Form a Higher Rank in Outdoor Life.

A movement is under way for the organization of the Order of Woodcrafters, a degree society open to boy scouts, the matter having been discussed at a meeting of some of the scout officials held last evening. In all probability the degree society to obtain rank in the organization will begin during the summer camp that is to be held on the Big Mtns.

The Order of Woodcrafters will have three degrees, the outer circle, the middle ring and the inner circle. When the member has attained the right to belong to the inner circle he will be able to rely upon his own resources in the woods without any help from others.

The tests for the three degrees are as follows: First degree, or outer circle—Be able to make frame and pot hooks for cooking, make a rooq bough bet, make a drinking cup out of one's hat, mark a trail without implements and be able to follow such a trail, demonstrate artificial respiration, make a candlestick of a potato, clear a line on a level five branches of the death grip in a camp fire and know how to combat a forest fire.

Second degree or middle ring—Put up and ditch a tent, take same down and roll properly, make a water filter, follow a blazed trail, demonstrate on level five branches of the death grip in a camp fire and know how to combat a forest fire.

Third degree or inner circle—Learn to properly pack a horse, make a fire of different material each time for six days, with only one match and at different times of the day, build a raft without nails, rope or string, build a lean-to camp for the night, fell a tree and split same properly, blaze a trail properly, tow a person by five methods, demonstrate five breaks in the water, make a camp over and build fire and cook something edible in even, catch a fish at least 12 inches in length, bake beans lumberman's style, make a preserver for food, fish, etc., make a rustic chair and table, find way to camp from a point one mile distant, said point to have been reached by boy blind folded.

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COUPLE BURIED SIDE BY SIDE

BAKER, Aug. 8.—The funeral services of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Spaulding were held yesterday afternoon at Mt. Hope cemetery. Services were conducted at the grave by the local E. O. O. F. and Hebrew lodges. There was also a number of the G. A. R. in attendance.

PARTY TICKETS TWISTED

(By Associated Press.)
PORTLAND, Aug. 8.—The first evidence of the contention of Charles Hall's recent claims developed today when the ticket of Multnomah precinct No. 279 showed five Democratic ballots with names of Republicans on them found in the Republican ballot box. Other changes in the count to say reduced Oleson's loss to two with Hall losing one.

MAIER WILL MAKE TALK IN LA GRANDE

Representative of Engineers and Firemen Billed for this City August 11th.

The subjects now before the people and receiving great attention are capitalization of railroads, railroad wages and working conditions, farming conditions and the relation of the farmer to organized labor.

Each of these subjects will be handled by Charles W. Maier at the Star Theatre on August 11th, which is the date set for Mr. Maier to talk to the people of Union county. He asks that the farmers be sure and attend for he wants to point some of the things which make the farmer and organized labor akin in this great industrial struggle.

WARREN G. STONE APPEALS TO RAILROAD CHIEFS TO AID IN PREVENTING COLLAPSE

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, August 8.—President Harding's second proposal for the termination of the shopmen's strike awaited today the action of both sides but rejection by the unions is foreshadowed in a statement of the leaders.

Chief executives of the Shopcrafts have been called to meet here Wednesday to consider the President's proposal that the seniority issue be left to the Labor Board.

Mr. Jewell, representing the shopmen pointed out that he had no authority to answer for the Federation, adding, "Nobody ought to get the idea that the shopcrafts federation will accept."

Railroad executives are expected to meet Friday in New York to formulate their answer to the President's second proposal.

Nothing definite is known as to their probable attitude.

STONE WIRES RAIL CHIEFS

(By Associated Press.)
CLEVELAND, August 8.—Warren S. Stone, who is understood to speak largely for the Big Four in all matters affecting the men, today telegraphed sixteen railway chiefs asking them to attend a conference at Washington on Friday to consider the present situation and avert the impending collapse of transportation.

ASKS FULL ATTENDANCE

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(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—President Harding informed the house members that he opposed the program of a three-day recess. He suggested a full membership in order that congress could function if legislation should be needed to carry out the administration's program in respect to the railroad and coal strikes.

White House officials did not disclose what the program would be.

LOCOMOTIVE WORKERS STRIKE

(By Associated Press.)
PATTERSON, N. J., Aug. 8.—As a protest against working on locomotives of the Erie railroad the entire force of the Cook Locomotive Works of America walked out today.

EVERY TRAINING BOYS AND GIRLS

The boys' and girls' livestock clubs are holding meetings for the purpose of practicing stock judging the latter part of the week under the charge of County Agent H. G. Avery. Many of the pigs owned by the club members are now 150 pounds in weight, being only five months old.

The Island City Pig club and the Union Club will meet Friday, the former at the farm of Andrew Blokland and the latter at the farm of W. J. Townley.

The Imbler Pig club will meet Saturday morning at the farm owned by Frank McKennon. The members of this club have had especial success in raising the pigs and are taking special interest in the work.

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Dry Weather Has Cut County Wheat Yield

Despite the fact that the crop of winter wheat, which is now being harvested, promised a bumper yield earlier in the year, it now appears that the farmers' expectations were too high and that the average yield will be slightly less than last year when the grain averaged 30 bushels per acre. Frank McKennon states that his wheat will yield 40 bushels per acre. The field near Summerville, Alibel, and Imbler will also yield several bushels above the average.

The reason for the lower bushels per acre is attributed mostly to the long spell of dry, hot weather, which burned up the wheat in some sections and caused it to mature too rapidly, instead of ripening more slowly, resulting in smaller yields. The presence of many weeds is also harmful to the crop and this has materially lessened the yield.

The rain that the Grande Ronde valley experienced last week greatly benefited the crops of spring wheat, also having a good effect on the winter wheat. The spring wheat that is still green will be practically saved from burning up unless the drought continues without abatement. The late spring wheat will be aided much more than that planted earlier and indications are that the yield of late spring wheat will be greater than was anticipated.

In some sections where irrigation was possible the spring and winter wheat is yielding very well. Near North Powder forty-fold wheat on Clover creek is yielding heavily, and at Wolf Creek, where it was possible to irrigate extensively, the crops look well.

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Weather

(By Associated Press.)
PORTLAND, Aug. 8.—Tonight and Wednesday fair; warmer tonight in extreme eastern part of state.