

La Grande Evening Observer

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OREGON TRAIL INTERESTS THE AD CLUB

W. E. Meacham Delivers His Excellent Talk on the Historic Highway.

ED. STACK SPEAKS ON LABOR TOPICS

Organization Spends One of the Best Dinners in Its History—Baptist Ladies Served Great Chicken Dinner.

Although filled with excellent chicken dinner, known to be a specialty of the Baptist ladies, Walter E. Meacham of Baker held the Ad club almost breathless while he delivered his celebrated talk on the Old Oregon trail today in the Eagles hall.

Tracing the history of man from the time he set foot on American soil, telling of the different expeditions which beheld the Pacific coast, narrating facts relative to the pioneer highway starting from Independence, Mo., and meandering across the country to the northwest to Astoria, the speaker brought out the points of interest which have ennobled themselves in history. He paid a high tribute to the pioneer, profoundly offering deep respect for the lives lost in winning the Oregon country, for he claimed that seventeen lives had been sacrificed for every mile of that old trail.

Mr. Meacham has been delivering Old Oregon trail speeches to many audiences in Oregon of late and in every instance he has been met with that intense interest which insures success of the trail association which he is organizing to perpetuate the historic features of what is believed to be the greatest homesteaders' trail in history. La Grande has shown interest in the movement from its inception but today the whole burst forth in a way that heretofore had not been appreciated so that a healthy membership to the association is anticipated from this city.

E. J. Stack, secretary of the Oregon Federation of Labor, spoke before the club at noon on the campaign being made by insurance companies to repeal the Workmen's Compensation Act now in force in the state. Mr. Stack says he believes there will be strong effort made to have the law repealed by this legislature and he urged that such not be done. He contended that the law as it stands offers much better protection to the workingman than anything of its kind ever done before and he is in favor of leaving good enough alone.

In mentioning the shopmen's strike Secretary Stack insisted that the strike had been settled by 189 railroads out of 220 but that railroads in the west were still holding out. "The strike is not won, neither is it lost," asserted the speaker, "but it is more nearly won than lost and we hope to have an adjustment before long that will put all men back to work."

A. W. Nelson was chairman of the meeting today and introduced the speakers in a most friendly manner. He also called for Dr. Mossman who announced the Herbst concert tomorrow evening. The chairman announced the Catholic bazaar soon to be held, and called attention to the luncheon next Tuesday when Dr. Campbell, president of the state university, will be the speaker. Dr. Mossman will be chairman and a Christmas program will be given at the noon-hour in the K. of P. hall where the Royal Neighbors will serve the dinner.

Strong praise for the Baptist ladies as caterers today was based on a chicken dinner with all the trimmings, excellently cooked and splendidly served.

TRAILING IS ABOLISHED IN CITY LIMITS

Chief of Police Issues Positive Order Stopping All "Trailing" Arthur Steffens Injured.

An official order that all "trailing" be stopped in the city of La Grande was issued from the police department early today as a result of the dangers, both to the trailers and to pedestrians, that result from this practice. The order is positive and will be strictly enforced. It is signed by A. C. Hayes, chief of police.

The above mentioned order was issued following the report of the serious injuries that Arthur Steffens, age nine, incurred last evening as a result of a trailing accident. Trailing is one of the most dangerous of winter sports and rarely does a year pass without toll being taken in accidents, more or less serious.

Boy's Leg Broken
The first serious accident due to trailing occurred yesterday afternoon about five o'clock when Arthur Steffens, age nine, who lives at 1804 7 street, who was trailing behind an automobile, was thrown into a telephone pole at the intersection of Depot and Jefferson streets, resulting in a simple fracture of his right leg, the break occurring at a midpoint between his knee and hip.

Arthur had been on his way home and had no sled but had accepted a ride with some other boys, who trailed the auto. The driver, turned the corner too sharply and the sled was thrown against the pole, the boy's leg receiving the full force of the blow. He was taken to the hospital and is getting along nicely. The car was driven by a man reported to be named Swartz.

Saturday evening Helen Brunson, a pupil of the Central grammar school, was injured while coasting on Sixth street hill, although her injuries were not severe. Several other accidents of a minor nature have been reported and with the injuring of the Steffens boy, the police decided to place the ban on trailing.

SAFES ARE NOW BEING OPENED IN RAZED CITY

Astoria Budget's Safe is the First to Be Opened; Contents Were Unmolested by Fire.

(By The Associated Press)
ASTORIA, Dec. 12.—The first work of digging into the ruins began today with the opening of safes. The Budget's safe was the first to be opened and everything was found safe, books were not charred. A committee of three men was named by the through the debris and area and identify safes. None will be opened until identified.

The bank safes will be opened later under the direction of local authorities, who have been guarding them. The council tonight will hear a report of the committee on street widening.

DAUGHERTY CASE GOES ON

(By Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—After an hour and one half wrangle the house judiciary committee voted today in executive session to proceed with the hearing of the Daugherty impeachment charges in the manner outlined by Representative Kell who brought the charges.

THE WEATHER.
(By The Associated Press)
PORTLAND, Dec. 12.—Wednesday fair, continued cold.

LARGE PAINTING ARRIVES IN CITY

L. D. S. Ladies Delighted With the Work of Art Which Will Adorn the Interior of Tabernacle.

The large oil painting which the L. D. S. ladies will present to their church has arrived in this city. It is now in the hands of Harley Richardson for framing. Mr. Richardson is very profuse in his praise of the work, which the artist depicted his subject, and as an object of art considers it bound to excite, not only the interest, but admiration as well, of those who appreciate things beautifully done.

As has already been announced this painting will be "unveiled" in the auditorium of the Tabernacle next Saturday evening at 8:15 o'clock. A general invitation is extended to the public to be present. A program will add to the interest of the occasion and no charges will be made. It is the hope of the ladies that their invitation will be generally accepted by one and all. They wish it known that those coming in late on account of employment will be cheerfully excused and not to stay away on that account.

The decorating and kalsomining of the Tabernacle auditorium which has been under way for several weeks is now completed. Mr. L. J. Ebert of this city who has had charge of this difficult piece of work has demonstrated that La Grande possesses highly skilled and competent workmen in this line.

Those attending the Herbst concert under auspices of the Neighborhood club will be the first to enjoy the renovated auditorium.

BULLETINS

WHEAT MARKET
(By Associated Press)
PORTLAND, Dec. 12.—Wheat 31.15 to 31.50.

ACTION UNNECESSARY
(By Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The president and his cabinet decided that the administration need take no action on the proposed Armour-Morris packing merger, holding that attorney general had the power to investigate any violations of the law should there be any in the proposed purchase of the Morris assets by Armour.

WATERS EXAMINED
(By Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Dr. Henry J. Waters of Kansas, was cross examined today by the Interstate Commerce Commission hearing the hay and grain rates.

REPARATIONS PROBLEM ACUTE
(By Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The White House indicated today it regarded the reparations difficulty as the most acute problem now vexing Europe.

DEATH CALLS MERCHANT OF WORLD FAME

John Wanamaker Passes On At His Home at Eight O'Clock Today.

DEATH FOLLOWED A LONG ILLNESS

Former Postmaster General and World Famous Merchant Answers Call of the Death Angel.

(By The Associated Press)
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 12.—John Wanamaker, world famous merchant, former postmaster-general, died at his home here at eight o'clock this morning at the age of 84. He has been confined to his home since early November with a heavy cold. He was born July 14, 1838.

John Wanamaker led in the creation of the department store as an institution in American life. At the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861 when he began business for himself in a humble way in Philadelphia, retail merchandizing in this country was in a disorganized state, and, in the opinion of the far-sighted young merchant, it was suffering a rapid decline through practices that were then general.

Mr. Wanamaker was 24 years old when he entered upon his career, in partnership with his brother-in-law, Nathan Brown, on a joint capital of \$2,500. In a clothing business at Philadelphia. He had been born in that city, July 14, 1838. His father and his father's father had been brickmakers, and John Wanamaker's first work was "turning bricks." He was the oldest of seven children and early in his boyhood he was obliged to give up schooling and earn his own way. His first wages were \$1.25 a week as an errand boy in a Philadelphia book store, and then as a young man he was employed for a time at Tower Hall, a famous old Philadelphia clothing house, where his personality and business ability were developed for his venture in business for himself. The Brown & Wanamaker store began business with a first day's sales account of 24, and ended its first year with a record of \$24,000 business.

Aside from establishing his one price policy and making a shorter business day, Mr. Wanamaker established in the new store two systems, one of sales and the other of organization. He turned it into a chain of manufacture some classes of goods than to buy from manufacturers and he became one of the first retailers to do this. He found it difficult to get employees who were properly instructed in their duties and he organized training schools where his workers were taught the "Wanamaker System."

He was known as a great believer

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DEMAND IS FOR BETTER MUSIC

Eastern Oregon Cities Show Constant Increased Support to Higher Class Entertainments.

Those who still think of Eastern Oregon as a rawhide section with her towns possessing electric pianos and mechanical orchestra machines to satisfy the desire of her population for music, must change their way of reasoning, for today the towns of Eastern Oregon are demanding the best in music and entertainment. The great artists who make the interior cities universally show surprise at the appreciation of the better things in the program.

Baker has had several artists of renown this season and at each number packed houses greeted the performers. The same is true of Pendleton. La Grande's record last year for higher class music was the talk of half the state for this city was visited during the season by some of the very best artists.

Beginning tomorrow evening, it is hoped by all, that the Herbst concert will open a series of events of extraordinary character. The Herbst concert is without doubt one of the very best events in music that any city can obtain.

Gottfried Herbst, violinist, is spoken of as follows by Zeitung, Stockholm, Sweden:

"In Herr Herbst, a young violinist of great ability, we have made a very pleasant acquaintance. The ease with which he overcame all obstacles was astonishing. The many chords and octave passages in the Vieuxtemps concerto caused him no difficulty whatever, and his staccato, both in the up and down strokes, is an acquisition for which many great artists can envy him—many not being able to accomplish it even after years of patient study."

His charming voice, which the critics all over the nation, have seen fit to openly admire. The following article from the Palo Alto Times will bear out this statement:

"The first number, Schubert's 'Ave Maria,' sung with a grasp and polish of an artist, assured the audience of a recital of unusual and superior character. Of the succeeding numbers, each one of which had its peculiar charm, perhaps 'Die Lorelei' by Liszt for sympathetic interpretation, 'Villanello' by Dell 'Aqua' for remarkable fluency and clarity of tone, and the aria from 'La Traviata' for dramatic effect, stand out especially."

These exceptional artists will appear Wednesday evening at the L. D. S. Tabernacle under auspices of the Neighborhood club. The concert begins promptly at 8 o'clock.

CORRECTION

In regard to the article concerning the football boys' banquet and dance to be held at the Country Club this evening, somehow or other a line stating that the public was invited to the dance crept in. The banquet and dance are both only for the football boys and their invited guests.

BUICK MEN READY FOR NEW YEAR

Plans Made to Place the Buick Car in Front Rank in Union County in Future.

"We have been spending most of our time since coming to La Grande in preparing for a permanent future business," said S. O. Voorhies, local manager for the Southard & Shinn firm, which have the agency for the Buick car in Union and Baker counties.

"It is always necessary for new people to feel their way," continued Mr. Voorhies, "until they get used to the community and the community gets used to them. We have leased the corner room in the Union Motor company's building on Jefferson and Fifth streets, where we think we have one of the best show rooms in Eastern Oregon. Here will constantly be found the Buick car in all of its beauty and sturdiness, for, let me say, the Buick is the most wonderful automobile value now that has ever been offered to the American public. Its beauty has been increased and its durability remains the same, for that has been the principle upon which the car has made its wonderful record."

Mr. Voorhies said La Grande is to be a Buick center and that service in its most pronounced form would be a part of the firm's program.

The Southard & Shinn company is recognized as one of the strong automobile institutions of Eastern Oregon and the fact that they are behind the Buick is assurance of permanency.

In speaking of his stay in this city, Mr. Voorhies said: "I am greatly pleased with La Grande. I think it is a hummer of a little city. It is one of the best towns in the entire north-west today and it is quite a satisfaction to me to cast my lot among the people here."

STEAMSHIP IS ON THE ROCKS CREW IS SAFE

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12.—A message received here at noon said that all of the Ortel's crew was being transferred to relief steamers.

(By The Associated Press)
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12.—Late wireless messages announced that the Ortel would be abandoned because of being high on rocks and that the holds were filled. Damage is too serious to attempt to tow the steamer in. Asiatic members of the crew were transferred to the Cotton Plant at 9:20 o'clock, but at this time the white members of the crew were still standing by the ship.

(By The Associated Press)
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12.—The crew of the British Steamer Ortel, on the rocks at Fish Rock, off California coast, ten miles south of Point Arena, was being transferred to the Steamer Cotton Plant at eight o'clock this morning, said a wireless message. The Cotton Plant and the steamer Klugando arrived at the scene in response to an 8:00 P. M. call.

POLICE REPORT FICTITIOUS

CASPER, Wyo., Dec. 12.—After a flurry was caused by an announcement that the woman arrested here was suspected of being Clara Phillips, Los Angeles hammer slayer who escaped recently, the police later said that the woman was from Kirby, Wyo., and was held for investigation into her sanity. The police captain added that reports given newspapermen had as their basis a wish of members of the force to hoax newspapermen.

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BORAH MOVES TO LIMIT THE BANK PROFITS

Joint Stock Land Banks May Be Held to Six Per Cent if Bill Carries

JUDGE LOBBELL TELLS OF FUTURE DANGERS

Business Rivalry Between Reserve Banks and Joint Stock Land Banks Said to Be Keen.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 12.—Senator Borah's bill to limit the profits of Joint Stock Land Banks to six per cent, the same as dividends of Federal Reserve Banks and to turn the excess profits over to the national treasury will be an important source of public revenue.

The official report for October shows the total capital of the Joint Stock Land Banks to be \$21,233,771.67. When they all earn twelve per cent annually as some of the older ones are now doing, the national treasury will receive each year \$1,274,020.30 on the present capitalization alone.

After a thousand such banks are organized this annual franchise tax paid for the tax exemption subsidy will repay a small part of the treasury losses sustained by tax exemption of the bonds.

Senator Borah has in his possession circular and letters showing that profits of twelve per cent have been made since 1919 by some of the banks and that they have sold stock as high as \$140 a share. One bank increased its capital from \$250,000 to nearly a million dollars and the original stockholders furnished most of the capital for the increase.

High Salaries Paid
A syndicate of Pacific coast capitalists organized a string of these banks to cover the states west of the Rocky mountains and a member of the Farm Loan Board resigned his \$10,000 position to become president of the Pacific Coast association. Another member of the Farm Loan Board resigned to become president of the first Carolina Joint Stock Land Bank. Salaries of \$20,000 a year are paid some Joint Stock Land Bank officials besides profits.

The next annual report of the Farm Loan Board will show that an average of one new Joint Stock Land Bank every week has been organized for the last nine months, thirty-seven since February 23, 1922. A total of sixty-eight charters have been granted in six years.

LOBBELL ISSUES WARNING

Senator Borah has in his possession a mimeograph copy of a speech delivered to officers of Joint Stock Land Banks at a convention held in Chicago in August by Farm Loan Commissioner Lobdell. In this speech Judge Lobdell warned the banks that some of them were charging excessive fees to borrowers that would make them "look rather uncomfortable in the hands of a congressional investigating committee." He also said that personally the members of the Farm Loan Board would enlarge the powers of the Federal Land Banks and not have any Joint Stock Land Banks, if they were to now write a Farm Loan Act. He reminded them that there is a tendency to over-look on inadequate security to get a large volume of business and specifically said of the special privilege granted them:

"Your institutions enjoy a sub-

Glenn Forwood Sues O.W.Co. for \$100,000

Through his attorney, E. H. Ringo, came here as a strikebreaker in 1911, also that he was disloyal to the government presumably for taking part in the shopmen's recent strike against the mandate of the United States Labor Board.

Mr. Forwood has taken a prominent part in railroad circles previous and during the strike and is also connected with several fraternal organizations in the city. He is a member of the International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths.

The deputy sheriff served papers in the suit this morning on the railroad company.



La Grande Finds Mercury At Season's Lowest Mark

(By The Associated Press)
PORTLAND, Dec. 12.—Lowest temperature here this morning was nine degrees above zero. At Eugene the lowest mark reached by the thermometer was 22 above, at Salem, 26 above, at Umatilla three above, at Baker two below. A slightly colder night is forecast.

(By The Associated Press)
CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—High winds brought the first severely cold weather to the middle west today, while the northwest for the second time this winter was in the grip of sub-zero temperatures.

La Grande, Union county, and Eastern Oregon as a whole, experienced the coldest weather of the winter last night and this morning. In La Grande the lowest point the thermometer reached, during the time between dusk and sunrise, was four degrees below zero, and at Astoria, at the top of the hill, the mercury dropped to 22 degrees below, according to a contributor on the O.W. This morning at eight o'clock the thermometer read eight above at Union, and at ten o'clock the evening before it registered one below. In La Grande the mercury began climbing with sunrise and by ten o'clock had reached eight degrees above zero.

At any rate, La Grande citizens woke up to find plants of snappy weather, the kind that snapped buds when the ice expanded too much for the capacity of the pitcher.

Pheasants Endangered
Local sportsmen are fearful that the cold snap, coming in conjunction with the heavy snow, will endanger the lives of Montezuma pheasants and other game birds who will be thus cut off from their food supply. If the cold weather continues and the sportsmen's fears are found correct, arrangements will be made to meet the needs of the birds at the top of the mountain.