

# La Grande Evening Observer

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LA GRANDE, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1923

MEMBER OF ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBER 87

## 10 BILLS ARE APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Ten of Eleven Appropriation Bills are Approved Last Evening.

### FARM BLOC HOLDS FIRST MEETING

Opponents of the Anti-Allen Land Bill May Register Protests at Open Meeting Tuesday.

(By Associated Press)  
SALEM, Jan. 17.—Woodward's bill extending the franchise at school elections to all citizens and providing for dental examination of school children was defeated today by 59 and 44 votes respectively. They were known as organization measures but Kelli abandoned them when several leaders and the farm bloc opposed them.

The senate passed the Strayer bill giving county courts the exclusive control of market roads.

**Bills Introduced.**  
Bills introduced today included Eddy's providing liquor fines go to counties; Bowen's providing that no city or town impose a license fee for peddling farm produce; Zimmerman providing that all bills except appropriations be introduced thirty days before legislative convenes; and Hal introduced one making utilities gross incomes one-tenth of one percent to make the public service commission self supporting.

SALEM, Jan. 17.—Opponents of the anti-Allen land bill will have an opportunity to register protests at an open meeting next Tuesday night called by the House Judiciary Committee.

A joint ways and means committee has eleven appropriation bills ready, ten being approved at the meeting last night.

The farm bloc held their first meeting last night, which was attended by about twenty.

### Pierce Starts Inquiry

SALEM, Jan. 17.—Gov. Pierce today started his legislative program by inquiring how many bills following recommendations in his message had been introduced. He also said that he intends to call a conference of two irrigation committees and of the state irrigation committee relative to irrigation policies.

The question of saving the two and one half million bond issue for the Roosevelt highway, which will be lost in February if not matched by Federal funds, is before the house highway committee, headed by Jones of Newport, which will meet tonight.

## JURY CANNOT FIND VERDICT

At the close of an eight-hour session, the jury in the case of the state of Oregon vs. Sam L. Myers that came to a close yesterday morning at 2 o'clock, returned at 5 o'clock last night, eight voting for conviction and four for acquittal. A retrial will be necessary, the date being unset as yet.

### CONFERENCE BREAKS UP

PORTLAND, Jan. 17.—The Pacific Coast League meeting broke up suddenly today when directors of the Oakland, Portland, Los Angeles and Salt Lake clubs walked out after President McCarthy declared a resolution passed granting Vermont equal territorial rights and concessions with Los Angeles.

### KESSLER FILES DEMURRER

William Kessler, of Baker, charged with manslaughter of Arthur Cleaver filed a demurrer instead of entering a plea of guilty or not guilty.

## Fierce Wind Strikes Factory at Lone Tree; Damage About \$3000.

High winds, that swept the valley yesterday, inflicted severe damage to the White Pine Box company's factory situated at Lone Tree, about three miles east of La Grande. Attacking a high velocity, the storm tore off the roof of the building for the full length on two sides also blowing down the blower pipe from the building to the burner, in addition to blowing off the roofs of some back cars that were on the side track.

## SEARED WOMAN ABSOLVES KLAN IN STATEMENT

Mrs. Nevada Standish Says That Branding Was Done By Seeming Fanatic.

PORTLAND, Jan. 17.—Mrs. Nevada Standish, who was branded with a cross on her breast by masked men who entered her house the night of November 21, is in Portland with her mother, Mrs. Ed Wiley, at the Acme hotel, and denies that the attack upon her was made by the Ku Klux Klan. Her husband had so stated, says the Portland press.

Her husband's statement yesterday that she was not a member of the Ladies of the Invisible Empire, she said, is incorrect.

"When I joined the organization I did not feel it was advisable to tell my husband about it," she said. "Through all this affair I refrained from telling my husband because he was ill and in the hospital and I did not want to worry him."

"I felt able to take care of myself in the matter. I realize now that it was a mistake not to tell him because the night in which the affair has come to me has caused him more distress than it would have caused had I told him in the beginning."

### She Absolves Klan

"I am confident that I know the man who branded me, and I know that the Klan is not responsible. When I have sufficient information in the matter I shall file a complaint and take the case into court."

"I do not know how long I shall remain in Portland, but I will have to return to Tillamook soon, as I have the ranch there."

There have been a number of misstatements about the case, which make me afraid to talk about it much, for fear of adding to the confusion. I was not warned by Mrs. Larson to keep still about the branding, as was stated in some of the papers, and I have not been married twice, as was reported elsewhere.

"The man who made the attack had no personal reason for it. The best explanation of his motives that I can make is to say that he seems to be a fanatic. His name will come out in due time when legal proceedings are begun."

### Klan Is Investigating

"The Klan in Tillamook county is investigating the matter and promising to use every effort to bring to justice the men who did this. I have not seen the excited crowd of the Klan here. He is a very busy man, and I do not know whether I shall see him during this trip or not."

Mrs. Standish visited her husband at the hospital on her arrival yesterday afternoon. She will remain with her mother at the Acme hotel during her visit here.

The state Klan officials have as yet taken no further steps in investigating the affair, beyond receiving a report from the Klan in Tillamook.

Mr. Standish says that every effort is being made in Tillamook county to "hang it" on the Klan and that until she has sufficient evidence to go ahead with her case, she can do nothing more than say that the Klan is not to blame.

## HIGHER COURT REMANDS CASES

SALEM, Jan. 17.—The supreme court decisions included: Anderson vs. East Oregon Lumber company, an appeal from Willamette county, tried in Willamette court by Judge J. W. Knowles.

The judgment of Judge Knowles was reversed and remanded; Justice Harris and Justice Bean dissenting. The opinion was given by Justice Burnett.

### Judgment Restored

Another case acted upon was Seord vs. East Oregon Lumber company, an appeal from Willamette county tried originally by Judge J. W. Knowles. The judgment was restored and remanded. The opinion was given by Justice Burnett, Justices Bean and Harris dissenting.

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## HALL BILL IS NOT CAUSING BIG COMMENT

Vacuum Which Marked Adjournment of Legislature is Still Present

### SEVERANCE TAX HAS MANY SUPPORTERS

Very Little of Real Value to State is Being Done in the Legislature, States Senator Dennis.

### (By Bruce Dennis)

STATE HOUSE, SALEM, Jan. 15.—(Special)—After a three-day recess during which time legislators either journeyed to their homes or to Portland, the two houses convened this morning, or to Portland, the two houses convened this morning still in the vacuum which marked the last week's end.

Everyone seems to be awaiting the other fellow. It is not a case of a sparring proposition, neither is it a case of awaiting developments before the big bills are drawn. No session has ever experienced quite a similar condition.

The Hall consolidation bill, said to be an administrative measure, was shot into the hopper but the results were far from what were expected. Instead of it absorbing the attention of every member and becoming the crux of debate in lobbies and at hotels it rests in the little bed of committee consideration with no one trying to fear off the covers and no one caring a rap about its future, apparently.

Its provision to abolish all members of the public service commission but one is sometimes spoken of, but little from that opinion is expressed at all. It is usually stated that the bill merely provides for the shifting of titles and members cannot find where it will see any action, to the taxpayers.

A few bills such as naming the Oregon Trail across the state have passed, but nothing that vitally affects Oregon as a state, or the taxpayers has yet been introduced. Reports of such as the tax investigating committee and the state audit committee, are being printed which causes a little delay, but even so, the usual trend would be to discussion of these things, whereas this session is not indulging in even that.

The severance tax, which was a campaign slogan has many supporters provided it can be put in proper shape, but thus far not a single bill has been forthcoming to get the matter before the bodies. The same is true of the much talked of income tax. Several bills will be brought out in time but none are ready at present.

Then there is the charge of assessment which is of vital interest to

(Continued on Page Eight.)

## HARDING HAS SEVERE COLD

Cancels All the Engagement Dates Today on Account of Illness; Condition Not Serious.

### (By The Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—President Harding cancelled all engagement dates today to rest on account of an attack of grippe. The White House announced that the rest was decided on merely as a precaution and that his condition is not serious.

### (By The Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—President Harding, because of a cold which has afflicted him for several days, went to the White House proper Tuesday noon after the regular cabinet meeting and spent the afternoon resting. He retired for the night early. Brigadier General Sawyer, the president's personal physician, however, emphasized that there was nothing serious in Mr. Harding's condition.

The first intimation that the president was indisposed was given at the usual Tuesday conference with newspapermen. After answering some questions on international and domestic problems, he indicated his wish that the conference be prolonged no further than necessary and it was at once terminated.

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## EXTRA

CANTON OCCUPIED (By Associated Press)  
CANTON, China, Jan. 17.—Six thousand Kwangsi troops supporting Sun Yat Sen, have occupied the city. Shops have been closed and business is at a standstill.

## SUPREME COURT AFFIRMS JUDGE

Judge J. W. Knowles' Decision in Ferguson versus Holborn Case is Affirmed By Justice Bean.

SALEM, Jan. 17.—The supreme court decisions included: Ferguson vs. Holborn, appealed from Union county, tried by Judge J. W. Knowles. The court was to vacate a decree of the county court setting aside a homestead in La Grande to a widow. From a decree in favor of the defendants the plaintiffs appealed.

In an opinion by Justice Bean, he holds that the estate for life in real property may, under certain conditions, be merged in fee simple title to such real estate; but the statute does not provide that any mode for the homestead title in fee, to be merged in, or swallowed up by the life estate.

The setting aside of the homestead did not destroy the devise in the will either of the estate, or the devise of the remainder to collateral heirs as there was real property of estate other than the homestead to which the will applied.

The decree of the lower court was affirmed.

## RELIEF WORK AIDED BY CLUB

Following the reading of Near East cablegrams at the meeting of the Neighborhood club yesterday by J. J. Handsaker, state director, the club voted to adopt an Armenian orphan at a cost of \$60.00 per year while individual members subscribed \$10.00 additional, making a total of \$221 for the club.

The canvass is getting lined up nicely under the direction of Mr. Pryke. A. B. Briston is on the field also to assist in the canvass. A grand total of about \$1500 has been subscribed in pledges and cash.

## "Y" DIRECTORS TO HAVE LUNCHEON

The board of directors of the Y. M. C. A. will meet at a luncheon tomorrow noon in the Y. M. C. A. building where the regular monthly business will be transacted.

A nominating committee will be appointed for the election of retiring board members and they will also lay plans for the annual meeting to be held the third week of February.

## ITALY AGAINST DRASTIC ACT

Doing Everything Possible to Restrain Poincare Government from Coercion.

### (By The Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—To the utmost limits consistent with the preservation of its relations with France and also with Great Britain, the Italian government has been exerting itself within the past few days to restrain French officials from proceeding with extreme measures at Geneva against Germany.

A clear exposition of Italian position in connection with the problem of the Ruhr invasion already has been made known to Italy's allies and undoubtedly will not be sufficient to cause any sensible change in the French plans. The views of the Rome government have received serious consideration.

### Opposes Ruhr Invasion

One important disclosure is that the Italian government, while of necessity concurring in the decision of the reparations commission that Germany was in voluntary default in the supply of coal and other supplies required to be turned over to the allies, never contemplated a military invasion of the Ruhr.

### Then there is the charge of assessment which is of vital interest to

### (Continued on Page Eight.)

## LIGHT COMPANY WANTS PATRONS TO ECONOMIZE TO ECONOMIZE

Manager J. P. Lottridge Issues Statement Concerning Problems Involved in Present Shortage.

Arrangements have been made whereby the Eastern Oregon Light and Power company, now facing a shortage, will purchase power from the Baker Municipal plant, J. P. Lottridge, manager of the company, stated today.

He continued: "We are able to turn into our system about 700 kilowatt hours a day from the city's plant. This is about two per cent of our present daily output. Two per cent is a small proportion of the total but we are very glad to get it. On the other hand it should not be undervalued that the use of the city's plant by any means solves our shortage of power problems. The need for economy is not eliminated. But as to 'inconvenience' to our customers, as expressed in the Herald last night, we have not asked our customers to suffer any inconvenience and do not expect to. True, we have asked the two dredges to discontinue operations, but they were prepared for that contingency. Other than that we have only asked our customers to cooperate with us by economizing in their use of electricity, but we certainly do not expect them to suffer inconvenience by so doing. Incidentally, we suppose it is obvious that by economizing, our customers will be compensated by the saving in their electric light bills."

Statements have been made that certain mines are unable to operate because of our inability to serve them. There are no mines, to my knowledge, which are ready to operate at the present time, which are not operating because of our shortage of power."

Mr. Lottridge stated further that in addition to reimbursing the city for the company's share of increased expenses at the city's plant, the E. O. L. & P. company is furnishing its own operator and is paying the city a fair price per kilowatt hour besides.

## GERMANS ARE ADHERING TO COAL STAND

Representatives of the Coal Magnates Fail to Appear Before the Board.

### (By Associated Press)

DUSSELDORF, Jan. 17.—Representatives of German magnates failed to appear today before the control commission, sending word that they had decided to follow Hertha instructions and make no coal deliveries to the French.

### Four Coal Men Arrested.

(By Associated Press)  
LONDON, Jan. 17.—Reuter dispatches from Essen, say that according to reports from German sources four Ruhr industrial leaders, including Herr Thyssen, were told by the French authorities at Dusseldorf to consider themselves under arrest after they reiterated they would only obey orders from Berlin.

### (By Associated Press)

LONDON, Jan. 17.—An armistice at Mezel is in effect and negotiations are in progress between insurgents and the high commissioner to avert further bloodshed, according to official advices.

### France Maintains Front.

(By Associated Press)  
DUSSELDORF, Jan. 17.—The French are to take possession of the mines tomorrow. Ruhr magnates were informed that their property will be confiscated and operated by the French for the reparations account. The magnates who refused to cooperate will be court martialed.

### TO BOTTLE LIQUOR

(By Associated Press)  
NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—To protect the public from poisonous whiskey bought at drug stores on prescriptions, the government has decided to bottle all bulk liquor now held in bond to guarantee the proof and quality.

### DEBT BOARD DEADLOCKED

(By Associated Press)  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—British and American debt commissions have reached a point in the negotiations where it is virtually agreed that no further progress can be made until the British commissioners return from London where they will confer with the government.

### THE MARKET

(By Associated Press)  
PORTLAND, Jan. 17.—Livestock steady; eggs weak and lower, buying prices 28 to 34 cents, selling prices 30 to 38 cents; butter steady.

### WHEAT QUOTATIONS

(By Associated Press)  
PORTLAND, Jan. 17.—Quoted varieties of wheat are \$1.28 to \$1.44.

## Armed Action is Taken Against Strikers in South; One Man Hung

HARRISON, Ark., Jan. 17.—With a suspension of the order of Gov. T. C. Melton, at Little Rock, late Tuesday ordering a company of Arkansas national guardsmen here, with a possibility of declaring martial law upon their arrival, Harrison Tuesday night resumed a tranquil appearance after two days and one night in which one man was hanged, another wounded and scores of alleged Missouri and North Arkansas railway strikers were escorted from town to the Missouri state line, accompanied by a "committee of 1909."

Committee Disperses.  
The "committee of 1909" broke up after holding special sessions behind closed doors for two days and one night and its members are on the way to their respective homes. Some of the committee came from a distance of 150 miles to assist in the roundup.

The Arkansas house of representatives adopted a resolution authorizing Governor Melton to call out the national guard and declare martial law at Harrison. The resolution stated that the legislature must make all the appropriations necessary.

Tuesday night, it was said, virtually every striker in Harrison—about 200—had been ejected from the state or placed in jail by the committee.

### One Man Hanged

The body of C. C. Gregor, striking railway shopman, found early Tuesday morning hanging from a railway trestle, Tuesday night was taken by his wife and relatives to his former home for burial. Gregor, it is said, was hanged after he resisted attempts of the "committee of 1909" who were seeking to identify persons who are said to have carried on a campaign of sabotage against the railway company. Gregor's home was visited by a committee demanding his surrender Monday night. Gregor is alleged to have replied with a revolver shot and escaped from the house in a hail of bullets. Emery dust and high explosives were found in Gregor's house, members of the committee charge.

Following the lynching of Gregor, George W. O'Neil, hotel proprietor and local capitalist, who is said to have furnished bail for many strikers, was arrested and charged with sabotage, was taken from his home and severely whipped.

## THE FUTILITY OF IT

