

La Grande Evening Observer

VOLUME XXVI

MEMBER OF ASSOCIATED PRESS

LA GRANDE, OREGON, TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 1923.

MEMBER OF ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBER 128

MABTON MAN FOILS PLANS OF BANDITS

Bank Robbers Scared Away
from Mabton Bank By
His Arrival.

COPS ONE ROBBER;
THE OTHERS ESCAPE

Vault Had Been Dynamited
But Nothing Was Missed;
Robbers Had Tunneled
Through Wall.

(By Associated Press)
YAKIMA, Mar. 6.—When Marshall Ashbrenner, of Mabton, reached the Mabton bank, where he had heard of an explosion early today, he was met by a man who commanded him to "stick 'em up." Ashbrenner refused to comply, knocked the man's gun out of his hand and in turn commanded the man to "stick 'em up yourself."

After marching his prisoner to jail he returned to the bank to find that other robbers had fled after having dynamited the vault and digging a hole under the wall. Nothing was taken, the robbers having apparently been halted in their work by Ashbrenner's arrival, then becoming alarmed and fleeing.

SEAT SALE WILL OPEN WEDNESDAY

"Come Out of the Kitchen,"
A Three Act Comedy
Drama, to Be Presented
By the Senior Class.

"Come Out of the Kitchen" and see the Senior play" is the slogan that the Senior class has adopted. The three act comedy drama, tented as being one of the best of the local high school has secured the local time, will be presented March 9-10, Friday and Saturday evening, in the high school auditorium, having been secured for presentation by special arrangement with Samuel French, of New York.

Briefly speaking, the plot is as follows: The Danczerbergs, a Virginia family of the old aristocracy, in need of money, decide to rent their home to a rich Yankee. His demand for a complete study of white servants in the cause of many complications as the hired servants fail to arrive and the Danczerbergs are forced to take their place.

The fun begins when Burton Crane arrives home from the north with his friends and lives in "one continuous riot for three days" finally breaking the home, after his house party and the servant staff shrinks" to two, himself and the pretty cook. To tell more would give the final outcome and many pretty scenes away but the drama is throughout one of excitement and comedy.

The reserve seat sale will begin Wednesday morning at eight o'clock at the Glenside and those who are planning on attending are urged to make their reservations early, as a large crowd is anticipated.

The cast are diligently training and are rapidly getting the fine points of the drama mastered and under the direction of Miss Marie Bennett.

Inclement Weather Causes Drive to Begin Monday

With many Red Cross solicitors and other workers ready to start on the annual drive this morning the executive board decided that weather conditions and the uncomfortable walking justified postponing the drive until next Monday morning, when it will start "with all cylinders working," as expressed by some of the committee members.

In the meantime offices at the La Grande Investment company will be maintained to give out information and further instructions as that bright and early Monday morning Red Cross workers will call at the homes in the city giving everyone an opportunity to lend in this charity fund work.

It must be remembered that this is not for the purpose of raising money to send abroad, but it is to maintain and take care of the charity work in Union county for the coming year.

British Girls May Soon Don Moleskins And Use Wicked Weed Is Report

(By Associated Press)
LONDON, Mar. 6.—It is inevitable that Cambridge will some day allow degrees to women, in the opinion of Miss Blanche A. Clough, retiring principal of Newnham college. The university cannot forever resist the pressure to open its doors to girl students. "We only want permission for a limited number of selected girls to be able to study under the best conditions," Miss Clough declares. "The average amount of study done by women students is greatly in excess of that done by men."

"The girl students of today," Miss Clough says also, "are quite as nice as those of thirty years ago. Smoking and games have not done them any harm. I see no objection to girls playing football if they wish to do so."

"ON TO SALEM" IS WAR CRY OF THE BLUE TEAM

Many Rooters to Accompany
High School Hoopers
To Enterprise Tomorrow
for Titular Contest.

"On to Salem" will get its final test tomorrow evening in the Enterprise high school gymnasium. During the entire season the old slogan adopted by the Blue and White hoopers has endured, despite various setbacks that for a time threatened to put in the last bag, and the last time that it will be used in coming. If Joseph wins, needless to say, the slogan will be forgotten, and if all Grande wins, it will not be needed any more, but will become a fact—not a saying.

Couch Cecil Snow, accompanied by eight of his squad, probably Hummel, Lynch, McLean, Garity, Smith, Funk, Price and one other member, not positively selected, will board the branch line train tomorrow morning for the Enterprise contest. The winner of which will be undisputed champion, and therefore entitled to go to Salem to participate for state honors March 15-17 inclusive.

Rooters Going Along.
Despite the fact that the scheduling of a special train, which was held feasible for a few hours yesterday afternoon, has fallen through, scores of rooters are planning on making the trip with the boys. Principal E. D. Towler has made arrangements to excise all who wish to go on the trip. Several students are also planning on taking their cars, and it is likely that a number of alumni and town fans will likewise appear at Enterprise when the two teams meet. The spirit is going to be present from the sidelines tomorrow evening and it cheering can bring a victory—Joseph is defeated.

Referee Secured.
The game at Enterprise is being held under the indirect supervision of H. M. Dubois, who, as president of

(Continued on Page Five.)

Vandals Take Golden Bears Into Camp, 28-20

(By Associated Press)
MOSCOW, Ida., Mar. 6.—The University of Idaho, by a score of 28 to 20, defeated the University of California Monday night in the first game of the series here to determine the Pacific coast conference basketball championship.

The Idaho Vandals were almost practically the entire game, holding a lead of from two to eight points at the close. Fast passing and short shots were the methods used by the Idaho men and the Bears were forced to long shots on basket attempts.

Half California forward, was high point man of the game with 16 points. Fox, Idaho captain, was second with 14 points.

Every dollar given to the fund means you are aiding and assisting the needy at home and it means further that you will not be solicited by numerous other organizations, for the donation to this department cares for the charitable work in the county for a year.

Interviews from officials of the only that appeared in the Evening Observer Saturday have awakened a deeper interest in the Red Cross work, for many citizens did not realize to what extent the department was functioning until officers came squarely out over their signatures telling of the good Mrs. Catlin's organization was doing. Coupled with this came the statement from Post Commander Ralph Harro, who spoke for the service men, giving the greatest possible credit to the work.

GET WESTERN VIEWS IN RE RAIL MERGER

Interstate Commerce Com-
mission to Tour the
West Soon.

HEARINGS TO BE IN
4 WESTERN CITIES

When Western Series Are
Complete, the Interstate
Board Will Take Up East-
ern Consolidation.

(By The Associated Press)
WASHINGTON, Mar. 6.—The Interstate Commerce Commission will begin a series of hearings in the west March 19th, to give western communities and state authorities an opportunity to present their views on the railroad consolidation.

The first hearing will be held in St. Paul, and others are scheduled to be held at Helena, Mont., March 23; San Francisco, March 31; Los Angeles, April 7.

Commissioner Hatt and two examiners have been delegated to take evidence.

When these hearings are completed the commission will take up the eastern consolidation.

HARDING IS IN FLORIDA TODAY

(By The Associated Press)
ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla., Mar. 6.—President Harding's special train, conveying the President and Mrs. Harding to Ormond, stopped here today, leaving Secretary and Mrs. Weeks, and taking on board Charles G. Dawes.

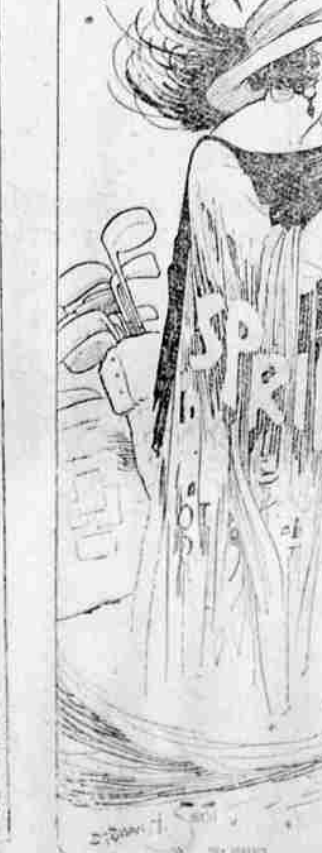
The weeks will remain here until the presidential party returns March 18 or 20.

At Ormond the presidential party will board a boat for a trip down the east coast of Florida.

(By Associated Press)
ORMOND BEACH, Fla., Mar. 6.—President and Mrs. Warren Harding arrived in Ormond today noon. They immediately boarded the houseboat chartered by Mr. and Mrs. Edward McLean, of Washington, for the presidential party.

FRANK COX ARRESTED
Frank Cox, who is alleged to have broken into the Union Motor company March 2nd, was arrested at Cove yesterday by the sheriff's officers. Cox will appear before court to answer to the charges at four o'clock this afternoon. At a preliminary hearing he was released upon giving \$500 bonds. Tires and other articles missing from the company were discovered and are held as evidence.

WE'RE READY TO GO WHENEVER SHE IS



Sensational Wall Scaler Plunges Ten Stories To Death Before Big Crowd

NEW YORK, Mar. 6.—With a Broadway crowd standing agape and movie machines clicking off their yards of celluloid ribbon, Harry F. Young, self-styled "spider," plunged 10 stories to his death Sunday while attempting to scale the side of the Hotel Martineau.

Women fainted and disorder ensued. The police estimated the crowd at 20,000.

Among those who crowded Greeley square, watching the performer at his stunt, was his wife, who swooned. She was revived and removed to a hospital.

RUSSELL SEES MINING FUTURE FOR SUMPTER

The following article was written by J. A. Russell, of La Grande, president of the Sumpter Valley Trading company which was recently incorporated in the city of La Grande for the purpose of taking an active part in the re-opening of the Sumpter Valley district, for the Monday issue of the Baker Herald, devoted to mining possibilities in Eastern Oregon:

"The writer is personally, financially and vitally interested in the development of Eastern Oregon. For months I have kept in touch with the slow but sure crystallization of sentiment in your city towards mining, your most important asset; at no time have I been unaware of the other and staple assets such as farming, timber, cattle and sheep.

"Being a butcher and packer, having grown with the country, I feel that not only do my interests lie here because I have made this my home, but it also devolves upon such as we have been forced into the spotlight by our growing business, to take an active interest in the development of all our resources no matter where, even though they seemingly may not directly affect us; I cannot, however, see how anything that affects one of us will not finally affect all.

"I want to place special emphasis upon the mineral assets of Eastern Oregon; it has been my good fortune to have spent a great deal of my time this summer going over the Sumpter district. I had heard a good deal pro and con; also had some knowledge of its achievements in years gone by, but in that day I was not so much attracted to mining as I have recently become. I have made a very thorough inspection of the Sumpter district last summer; have gone over a great portion of it with conservative mining men and engineers; and fairly well posted upon its possibilities and capabilities of production. I KNOW WHAT IT MEANS, as it daily takes on new life, as an adjunct to Baker county and especially to the City of Baker, and as I am commercially interested here, I am perforce interested in everything that makes for greater business development.

Smelter To Open.
"It is now an established fact that the Sumpter Smelter will begin operation

(Continued on Page Eight.)

OIL REPORT ALLEGED TO BE BIASED

So Claims A. C. Bedford,
Chairman of New
Jersey Board.

SCOFFS AT DOLLAR
GASOLINE REPORT

Bedford Declares That a
Monopoly Is Impossible In
the Oil Industry; Dubs
Report "Grossly Unjust."

NEW YORK, Mar. 6.—A. C. Bedford, chairman of the board of directors of the Standard Oil company of New Jersey, issued a statement Monday night charging that the senate sub-committee's report on the American oil industry, made public Sunday, was intended to discredit his company.

He characterized the investigation as unfair to and prejudicial against the company and the sub-committee's conclusion as "grossly unjust and misleading, such as no competent tribunal nor fair minded individual would draw from the evidence."

Monopoly Held Impossible.
Monopolization of the oil industry in the United States is an impossibility, he declared. He denied that there was any common understanding or price fixing agreement between the former constituents of the old Standard oil group. The price of gasoline, he added, depended on the laws of supply and demand and upon the prices received for petroleum by-products. Fuel oil, at present, he declared, was being sold at a loss, and the deficit had to be made up from gasoline sales. No considerable price advance in gasoline or other petroleum products was in sight, he said.

"Of 85,000 barrels of gasoline now being produced every day in the mid continent territory, 60,000 barrels are being thrown into markets that offer the best returns. Today the movement may be in one state tomorrow into another. The combined production of the Standard Oil company of New Jersey is 32,000 barrels daily. It is a fact too patent to elaborate the the refinery on the Atlantic seaboard or elsewhere cannot hold an arbitrary price for gasoline or other petroleum products when any jobber can draw upon this big surplus in the mid-continent area at prices lower than those asked by the eastern refiner."

Mr. Bedford scoffed at the suggestion that the price of gasoline might rise to \$1 a gallon. Substitutes, he said, could be produced at prices low enough and in quantities large enough to preclude such a possibility.

THE WEATHER.
PORTLAND, Mar. 6.—Tonight and Wednesday rain. Fresh southwesterly winds.

Bastrop Jury to Probe Masked Band Activities; Klansmen Serve On Jury

PASTROP, La., Mar. 6.—Attorney General Cocco appeared before the grand jury today with evidence obtained in a recent open hearing investigating mob activities attributed to the Ku Klux Klan.

(By Associated Press)
PASTROP, La., Mar. 6.—The Morehouse parish grand jury was drawn Monday and charged by District Attorney Judge Fred M. Odum. State Attorney General A. V. Cocco expects to appear Tuesday and submit evidence obtained at the open hearing here in January into kidnappings, floggings and other activities of masked bands, which the state charges were composed of members of the Ku Klux Klan and will ask for from 30 to 50 indictments ranging from assault and battery to murder the last in connection with the kidnapping and slaying of Watt Daniel and T. P. Richard of Met Rouge last August 24.

Estimates of the number of klansmen on the jury run as high as six, but this figure did not seem to be regarded as of importance since the attorney general has stated that he would be willing to place the evidence before a jury composed entirely of klansmen if they would only discharge their duty as sworn officials of the court.

LEGIONAIRES TO COME HERE FRIDAY NIGHT

Seven-County Legion Con-
ference Will Unofficially
Open Friday Night With
"40-8" Initiation.

"On Friday night, March 9th, at eight o'clock the 76th K. of C. Homage of 8 Chevaliers will initiate a bunch of moths. The wrecking crew is now in training." So reads a bulletin prepared by the La Grande American Legion Post No. 43 relative to the District Legionnaires Conference to be held here March 10th, at which time Legion posts from Camilla, Grant, Harney, Madeline, Baker, Union and Wallawa counties will be entertained by the La Grande ex-servicemen who are members of the Legion.

Although the conference itself is to be held on Saturday, Friday night will really under the divisional caucus in—tor, as the above quotation will indicate, on that evening the "40-8" society will have their last all ready for prospective members to mount.

The Day's Program.
Saturday's program begins at ten o'clock in the city hall building, on Elm and Washington, with the calling of the conference roll and reports of post representatives. The noon hour will be spent in "hanging on the nose-bag" and getting acquainted with buddies from other sections. Post commanders and vice-commanders meet at 1:30 o'clock in the city hall and adjourn to the historic, finance officers and chaplains will gather at the same hour in the Y. M. C. A. building, just east of the city hall. At 3:30 o'clock a general assembly will be held at the city hall, at which time various interesting subjects will be open for discussion.

Evening Program.
Beginning the evening with a tooth-paste banquet in the Methodist church, Spring and Fourth streets, given by the local post in honor of visiting commanders, at which time department officers and Legionnaires from other points will speak, the Legionnaires will then, at nine o'clock, advance on the Rex Hall for the closing ball, which will be an informal affair. The music will be furnished by the Legion orchestra. At midnight the conference will officially come to an end.

Vets Bureau Men Coming.
L. C. Joseph, district manager of the veterans' bureau of the Thirteenth district, Bradley T. Fowles, chief of the co-operative district with headquarters in Seattle, and Zack L. Taylor, chief of the co-operative district with headquarters in Portland, will be present Saturday. The object in their coming is to discuss the new

(Continued on Page Eight)

HALE TELLS OF WORK OF MASKED MEN

Sick Witness Testifies in
Jacksonville Court
From Cot

NAMES BRAY AS THE
LEADER OF THE MOB

Dr. Jouett P. Bray, J. P.
Hittson, Howard A. Hill
and 16 John Does Invol-
ved In His Story.

(By Associated Press)
MEDFORD, Mar. 6.—Haggard, but with his spirit unbroken, J. F. Hale, alleged night riders' victim, was again brought into court at Jacksonville today on a couch and was given a grilling cross examination. In answering questions concerning his relations with women and discrepancies between his testimony yesterday and his alleged reports of the "hanging," Hale flatly denied immoral conduct, and refused to be shaken from his main story.

The defense particularly questioned Hale regarding the actions of certain hotels in Eugene, Roseburg and Salem, after the "hanging." The names of alleged girl companions were brought in and Hale was asked to leave various hotels was affirmed, but all these charges he denied.

Hale showed no bitterness toward Dr. Bray, defendant, saying that Bray saved his life by restoring him when he collapsed after the hanging. He declared that he recognized Hittson by his voice and because he was called "chief" and "J. P." and admitted that he had not identified Howard Hill as a member of the party.

(By Associated Press)
MEDFORD, Mar. 6.—An unusual courtroom spectacle was presented in the circuit court at Jacksonville late Monday when Joseph F. Hale, alleged victim of a kidnapping and hanging episode by night riders, a masked band of hooded men, on the night of March 17, last, and state

(Continued on Page Five.)

CONVICTED MAN QUITS OFFICE

Sheriff James D. Agnew, of
Ada County, Idaho, Re-
signs Following Con-
viction in Liquor Case.

(By Associated Press)
BOISE, Mar. 6.—Denying a story printed Monday afternoon in a Boise paper, stating that he had turned over his star to William McBratney, senior, Sheriff James D. Agnew, convicted early Sunday morning by a federal court jury with five others for participation in an alleged conspiracy to violate the national prohibition laws, late Monday night made public a letter of resignation, which will be handed to John McGrath, chairman of the Ada county board of commissioners today.

In a interview granted a representative of The Statesman, Mr. Agnew announced that he would turn his star over to Mr. McGrath today, William McBratney, corner of Ada county, said then in acting sheriff until a new incumbent can be appointed by the county commissioners, as provided in the Idaho Compiled Statutes.

With the announcement that he would resign, Mr. Agnew asserted that he had been advised by his attorneys that it was his right to resign in office until removal proceedings were instituted, but under the circumstances he thought it best to resign.

(Continued on Page Eight)

Fish Hatchery Manager Expecting Record Year

"Plans are practically completed," states R. H. Bonney, superintendent of the Union Fish Hatchery, who is in La Grande today on a business trip, accompanied by his wife, "for the building of a park about the Union Fish Hatchery this year. The grounds will be leveled off, shrubbery will be set out, and a park, that will combine both the scenic and practical side, will be laid out soon."

The hatchery at Union, the pride of Eastern Oregon, owned by A. E. Burdick as being the finest hatchery in the state of Oregon, is also installing 26 new tanks, which will increase the hatching capacity of the establishment one-third per cent. The building is not being enlarged as it is possible to install the new

tanks in the space available. "We have a fine bunch of young fish coming on at present," said Mr. Bonney, "and are looking for a record year in the amount of fish to be reared. We have a number of brood trout now, seven inches in length that give much promise and conditions in general look very good." The brood trout which Mr. Bonney refers to are about a year old.

The State Game and Fish commission is planning on erecting a six room modern bungalow on the hatchery site to be occupied by Mr. Bonney and his family. The plans for the building have already been sketched out and it will beyond a doubt add to the general air of attractiveness that is present at this hatchery.