

# La Grande Evening Observer

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## 9 KILLED IN ALMS HOUSE FIRE TODAY

Six Women Cremated In  
Their Beds in Devas-  
tating Blaze.

### GAS EXPLOSION CAUSE OF FIRE

Charles Sanborn, A Stable  
Man, Gives Life Heroical-  
ly in Attempt to Rescue  
Women.

(By Associated Press)  
ANGELICA, New York, Mar. 15.—Seven women and two men perished when the Alleghany County almshouse burned here early today. The fire started in a gas explosion in the basement of a two-story wooden structure where 24 women patients were quartered, and quickly spread to the administration building.

## VALLEY PIONEER IS DEAD TODAY

Arthur Huff, of La Grande, about 65 years of age, was claimed by the grim Reaper at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Bert Knight, of Union, this morning at 11:15 o'clock at the end of an illness of long standing.

With his passing on the ranks of the Grande Ronde Valley pioneers are once more thinned and a host of friends join his relatives in their bereavement. Mr. Huff has been a resident of La Grande for about thirty years.

The funeral services are unannounced and the remains are at the Reynolds and Zimmerman funeral service parlors.

## 'STAR BRIGHT' BIG SUCCESS

"Star Bright," a three-act comedy-drama presented in the La Grande high school auditorium last night, under the auspices of the La Grande Boy Scouts, by the M. J. A. players, was declared by all who witnessed the play as being all that advance notices had claimed. A fair crowd was at hand and applauded vigorously many times as the play progressed and upon their departure at the conclusion, were unanimous in the opinion that the production was "one that could be classed with the best of dramatic amateur successes."

Directed by Lenora Conwell, the cast all worked together with the smoothness and fluency of a band of polished professionals, each one individually adding much to the success of the presentation.

Mildred Lovett played two piano solos between the first and second acts and accompanied the players in vocal solos during other intermissions.

The cast of characters of "Star Bright," which has been shown in nearly every town of size in Union county, with great success, is as follows: Lemuel Bright, Ray Haun; William W. Smith, Grant Bean; Walter W. Smith, Walter Bean; Arthur Pulver, Charles Welch; Jack Hoover, "Fisk" Metcalf; Parson Williams, Matt Conwell; Honor Bright, Kate Metcalf; Star Bright, Pauline Amosworth; Sunshine Bright, Effie Amosworth; Bird Denton, Frankie Haun; and Melinda Bandy, Elsie Watson.

## Germans Ready to Offer A Plan on Reparations

(By The Associated Press)  
LONDON, Mar. 15.—Germany is about to make a declaration that she is willing and ready to produce a plan for the final settlement of the reparations question, provided he can rely on the plan receiving the attention and consideration of the allied governments, says the Daily Telegraph's diplomatic correspondent, upon whose information the Daily Telegraph in an editorial says the fullest reliance may be placed.

According to the correspondent, the plan, which involves a material guarantee of the German industrialists, will not be disclosed until the German government is assured that it will not be brushed aside without serious consideration, as happened to Karl Bergmann's proposition in London in December, and in Paris in January. Unofficial and semi-official rumors from Berlin, says the correspondent, recently caused inquiries to be made of the British cabinet whether they

## Twelve Lives Lost When British Ship Merville Sinks Today Near Poland

(By Associated Press)  
FLUSHING, Poland, Mar. 15.—The British steamer Merville sank near Stenbank with a loss of 12 lives. The Merville was of the thousand-ton type, built in 1903 in Dundee and was owned by Galle, England.

## ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR BOND BIDS FOR YEAR

Two Portland Bond Houses  
Agree to Enter Bids  
Above Par on Improvement  
Bond Issues.

At a special meeting of the commission held prior to last night's session, on account of the bond sale covering the street improvement for the coming year, the board arranged with the Western Bond and Mortgage company and the Blyth, Witter and company, both of Portland, for a standing bid of above par for all bond issues in 1923 making it certain that the bonds will be readily sold. This will relieve the bidding contractors for the work from providing an outlet for the bonds which, under the city charter, they are obliged to accept at par in payment for their work. This will also save the city the usual five to ten percent ordinarily added to contractors' bids for discount purposes in disposing of the bonds and, with an approving opinion if a standard firm of bond attorneys, the city commission can call for an unconditional bid which will undoubtedly secure a higher bid for the bonds than could otherwise be obtained should the buyers be obliged to reserve from their bid the usual percentage which they must allow for obtaining and approving opinions as to the legality of the bonds.

By taking the above action, the city commissioners are looking forward and assuring themselves of a ready sale of the bonds at an acceptable price. The price of bonds might change and it is absolutely necessary that they be sold at par or the contractors accept them at par in order to comply with the law. The bond buyers are anxious to secure bonds of the city of La Grande due to the high credit of the city and have enough confidence in proving the financial condition of the country at large to make their offer of above par covering the entire season of 1923.

### Others May Bid.

This does not mean that the offer which is made today eliminates other bond buyers from bidding when the issues are for sale. The contract provides that the Western Bond and Mortgage company and the Blyth, Witter and company must be the high bidders and this offer made by them only provides that their bid will be above par. Any bidder offering a higher price for the bonds at the time of sale will be given preference in which event the bondholders previously mentioned are to be paid a reasonable amount for services rendered in providing the necessary steps in the proceedings and furnishing the approved legal opinion which amount has already been agreed upon and is very reasonable for the services which are to be rendered.

### FUNERAL SERVICES ARE HELD AT UNION

Jerry Thompson, of Union, passed away at home recently and was interred at Union Thursday under the auspices of the F. O. O. F. Mr. Thompson's death came as a sad shock to his many friends throughout Eastern Oregon, who mourn his passing on.

Mr. Thompson, a pioneer of this district, made his home up Catherine Creek.

### THE WEATHER

PORTLAND, Mar. 15.—Friday and tonight rain in the west, fair in the east portion with moderate southerly winds.

## 3 GERMANS ARE KILLED BY FRENCH

The Germans Attempted to  
Break Into Warehouse,  
Is Report.

### CLAIM VANDALISM IN RUHR DISTRICT

German Nationalists, Garbed  
as Frenchmen, Excited  
Adverse Feeling to Occu-  
pation Forces.

(By Associated Press)  
DUSSELDORF, Mar. 15.—Three Germans were shot and killed by French sentries today while trying to break into a machinery warehouse at Recklinghausen. According to the French announcement the shooting took place after the Germans had disregarded the usual challenge.

Vandalism Reported.  
PARIS, Mar. 15.—German Nationalists, wearing French uniforms and posing as French soldiers, are declared in French official advices from the Ruhr to have robbed their own countrymen and committed other outrages, to excite public opinion against the French.

## LA GRANDE BOYS BUCK DEEP SNOW

PENDLETON, Mar. 15.—Three young fellows arrived in Pendleton today from La Grande in a battered old Ford car in which they made the trip in seven and one-half days, according to a statement they made to a chance reporter. The machine was hoisted with mud from top to bottom. It would be impossible to cross the Blue Mountains now at all in a car, the young men declare, due to the fact that the snow on top is melting.

The trio had to buck a great deal of snow, and one day they were able to travel only one foot by actual measurement. They followed the plan of bucking the snow as far as they could with the car. Then they backed up and used a shovel to clear a path.

They declared they wanted to be the first men over the highway this year and tried to make the trip at this early date largely because they were informed it would be impossible for them to get over. They carried their bedding and also had along an emergency supply of food. Pendleton East, Oregonian.

### THE MARKET

PORTLAND, Mar. 15.—Cattle, top grades are ten higher, others steady; choice hogs \$7.50 to \$8.35; top hogs a quarter higher, the rest steady; prime light \$9.25 to \$9.50; sheep, eggs and butter steady.

## Russian Soviet Leaders Are Doomed to Die, Says An American Diplomat

(By The Associated Press)  
LONDON, Mar. 15.—Russia's leaders, Lenin and Trotsky, are doomed to die, according to Chas. R. Crane, former American minister to China, who has just left London for the United States, after a five months' stay in Europe. Mr. Crane, who has visited Moscow and Petrograd periodically during the past ten years, said that the Soviet premier was unquestionably in a dying condition. Trotsky, he asserted, is suffering from an obscure malignant abdominal trouble. He is obliged to remain in bed for long periods of time and his malady does not yield to medical treatment.

## MIDDLE WEST COVERED WITH SNOW TODAY

(By Associated Press)  
OMAHA, Mar. 15.—The heaviest general snow of the winter blanketed Nebraska and Iowa today. The fall at Omaha was over eight inches and still continues to fall. An average of over five inches over Nebraska and a fall of 19 inches at Council Bluffs at noon was reported. A brisk wind drifted the snows, delaying trains. Stockmen said that the snow was worth millions of dollars just what the winter wheat needs.

Reaches Chicago.  
CHICAGO, Mar. 15.—The blizzard reached here today. The storm extends from Texas to the Great Lakes.

## BULLETINS

### POISON FOUND

(By Associated Press)  
SALEM, Mar. 15.—That a bottle containing deadly poison was found at the state prison camp where the moonshine was alleged to have been "planted" so it would be found by convicts was declared today by Ward Johnson S. Smith, Trustee and guards to whom the bottle was turned over suspected it contained something other than moonshine and had the contents analyzed, which revealed it to be poison.

### SELECTING JURY

(By Associated Press)  
ST. JOSEPH, Mich., Mar. 15.—The selection of a jury to try William Z. Foster, charged with communist syndicalism, was practically complete today.

### INSANITY IS DEFENSE

(By Associated Press)  
MARSHFIELD, Mar. 15.—Insanity defense was relied upon by L. W. Pearce's attorney in the trial at Coquille for the alleged murder of Jas. Culver, a neighbor. State witnesses today told of the slaying by Pearce of his wife and Culver.

### WHEAT QUOTATIONS

(By Associated Press)  
PORTLAND, Mar. 15.—Hard white \$1.35; Western Red \$1.18.

## NIGHT RIDER TRIAL COMES TO AN END

Norris and Goodie, Alleged  
"Hangers," Released  
From Charges

### LILJEQUIST ASKS FOR DISMISSAL

Asserted That He Believed  
It Impossible for the State  
to Convict the Defendants

(By Associated Press)  
MEDFORD, Mar. 15.—On the state's motion all night riding cases before the Jacksonville circuit court were dismissed this afternoon.

(By Associated Press)  
MEDFORD, Mar. 15.—On the motion of the assistant attorney general Liljequist today, the court dismissed the case against G. Alexander Norris and Thomas E. Goodie, of Jacksonville, charged with participation in the alleged gangster of Henry Johnson, of Jacksonville, on the night of April 9th, 1922.

At the conclusion of the defendant Norris' testimony, Liljequist, addressing the court, said that he was convinced that the state could not prove the case against Norris and Goodie.

## SOLO WORK IS BAND FEATURE

Solo work by individual members of the O. A. C. military band will be the chief feature of the concert to be given in La Grande on March 26th.

"The band this year is the best that has ever represented the college," says Captain H. L. Board, director. "It contains virtually the same personnel as last year's band with the addition of several experienced musicians. It is evenly balanced between brass and woodwind and the artistic effect produced approaches that of a symphony orchestra. This is due to the large number of chorines and saxophones used, and use of the French horn instead of the ordinary alto and the large, deep-toned basses. The band plays the same grade of music as the best concert bands in America."

H. L. Board, has conducted the band, pronounced by the press the best college organization of its kind on the Pacific coast, for 18 years. Captain Board was graduated from O. A. C. in 1905, served in the Philippines and has since been instructor in mathematics and band master.

WHEAT QUOTATIONS  
(By Associated Press)  
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## "Pete" Russell Elected President of Fraternity At O. A. C., Is Report

Lead Russell, better known as "Pete" to his many friends in La Grande, now attending the Oregon Agricultural College at Corvallis, has been elected president of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, according to reports received here today. He is the son of L. H. Russell of La Grande.

## GEORGE NOBLE GETS BIG FINE AND SENTENCE

Found Guilty of Possession  
of Liquor; J. W. Spencer,  
of Union, Is Fined \$500.

At the Noble trial, held this morning in the city hall, with Judge R. J. Kitchin presiding, quite a crowd gathered. Lasting about an hour and one-half, the trial came to a close when Judge Kitchin found Noble guilty and sentenced him to ten days in the city jail and fined him \$200, the maximum fine under the city charter. Noble appealed the case.

J. W. Spencer arrived in La Grande this morning and pleaded guilty to the charge of possession of intoxicating liquor and was fined \$500 by Judge U. G. Couch.

The above cases fall to come under the late liquor ruling passed by the state legislature, which applies only to the manufacture of liquor, or the possession of stills, vorns, coils, or mash.

### Officers Active.

A concerted effort on the part of the county and city police officials yesterday afternoon and last night resulted in the arrest of two men and one woman, charged with violating the liquor law. Late last evening the deputy sheriff, John Stricker, and other deputies, raided the Spenser hotel and the old Centennial Hotel at Union, located on Main street south of the railroad tracks, and arrested three men and one woman, charged with possession of stills, vorns, coils, or mash. The men were arrested and released on their own recognizance and Mrs. Kerr, proprietor of the hotel, was arrested and brought to La Grande and placed in custody of the sheriff. She will have her hearing this afternoon at two o'clock before County Judge U. G. Couch.

### George Noble Arrested.

The police and county police officers, accompanied by J. E. Stearns, city recorder, E. H. Hayden, city manager, and another citizen, raided an apartment house on Washington avenue late yesterday afternoon and discovered nine pint bottles containing moonshine, twelve empty flasks in a trunk and an empty gallon jug in the room occupied by George Noble. The liquor was cleverly hidden in a secret drawer in a large table and was discovered only when the searching party was about to give up and leave the room.

Noble was arrested shortly afterwards and was arraigned before the municipal judge, who set his trial at ten o'clock Thursday morning. He was released under \$500 bail.

## UNION COUNTY MAN APPOINTED

Governor Pierce Names Tod  
A. Rhinehart Secretary to  
Tax Commission.

Another Union county man has scored in state affairs for yesterday Governor Walter M. Pierce appointed Tod A. Rhinehart, formerly assessor of Union county, to the office of secretary of the state tax commission.

Mr. Rhinehart was born out near Summerville and is one of the Rhinehart family who were pioneers in this valley. For many years he served as assessor and deputy assessor.

(Continued on Page Eight)

## \$6,000 Needed to Carry On Home Charity Work

With the county drive for the Red Cross home charity work just fairly started, it is well to call attention to the amount of money needed to maintain the department. After the most careful figuring on the budget system, the executive committee is positive that \$6,000 is the least that can be relied on.

If Union county is to have this department, it is worth anything at all, and everyone admit that it is a most needful function of present-day society, then it must be maintained in a way that it can bring results. In other words, there is positively no use trying to keep this department in operation unless it has funds to work with. The keeping open of a Red Cross office, with possibly a strong emphasis on the job, would be money entirely wasted and would not be what the people are used to having, therefore it would be a failure.

Unless the services of a social worker, such as Mrs. Catlin, can be paid for, unless the great research work pertaining to every child's life, against the government, unless the home charity work can be promptly and efficiently handled, there is no use to maintain a Red Cross chapter in the county.

A feature that some may have overlooked is the amount of government money for the soldiers that Mrs. Catlin has succeeded in obtaining since her work began in La Grande. It runs into large sums, and a great deal of it never would have been secured by the boys had not someone with the ability and earnestness of purpose of Mrs. Catlin kept constantly at this work. She is, in fact, the attorney for every service man in Union county and fights his battles through the war department at Washington, D. C. This is done in addition to the home charity work which everyone knows has been of the greatest value to the county.

This department must be maintained by free will offerings. There is no other way to handle it, and the amounts given during this drive should be as large as the individual or business firm can possibly give.

