

La Grande Evening Observer

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ELGIN SITE OF ANOTHER LARGE FIRE

Sommer Hotel, Landmark of
City, Totally Destroyed
Yesterday.

QUICK WORK SAVES
ADJOINING PLACES

Loss Mounts Into Four Fig-
ures; Establishment Was
Owned by Dan Sommer;
May Rebuild.

The Hotel Sommer, which has
been a landmark in Elgin for a
quarter of a century or more, was
destroyed by fire early Sunday morn-
ing. The structure and contents are a
total loss and the conflagration is the
second that visited Elgin within
a week.

The fire was discovered at 12:40
p. m. by Wm. Hendricks, resident
of Wallawa, who was a guest at the
hotel that night. Hendricks was
awakened by the snapping and crack-
ling of the flames in a room directly
across the hall. The alarm was im-
mediately sounded, and Iver Simon-
son, manager of the hotel, was one
of the first to be aroused and he,
together with Hendricks, hurriedly
awakened all guests and no lives
were lost.

The volunteer fire department was
at the scene of the conflagration
within a short time but not until
after the flames had made their way
through the roof and a greater part
of the structure was a seething mass
of flames and an adjoining building
and it was only through heroic ef-
fort that the fire was confined to
the structure in which it originated.

The burned structure stands on a
corner of a solid business block, and
owing to its large dimensions and
frame construction endangered not
only one block but several blocks of
business buildings. A two-story brick
structure immediately adjoining, and
the second story of which formed
an annex to the hotel, was even sav-
ed from serious damage through the
almost super-human efforts of the
boys of Elgin's fire department. On
the lower floor of the adjoining brick
building is located two stores, the
Model Grocery and the Elgin Furni-
ture Co. While the fire department
was engaged with the flames, citi-
zens carried out many articles from
the two stores, but considerable dam-
age resulted to the stock and fix-
tures of the Model Grocery and some
damage resulted to the furniture in
the adjoining room, due mostly to
water.

Although the flames were held
within the confines of the hotel it
was 2:20 before they were extin-
guished and it was not until then
that the people of Elgin felt re-
lieved. For an hour it seemed that
the fire would spread to ad-
joining business buildings and resi-
dences and for a time it appeared
that the town would suffer the most
damaging fire in its history.

The scene of yesterday morning's
conflagration is directly across the
street from the location of another
fire that occurred within the past
week, and in which the Roach build-
ing and a stock of furniture were de-
stroyed.

The Hotel Sommer was owned by
Dan Sommer, well known Elgin busi-
ness man, and was erected about 27
years ago. The loss will run into
several thousand dollars.

Several theories are advanced as
to the cause of the fire but the
exact origin is not known.

The loss is a serious one to the
owner and to Elgin, but it is rumo-
red that a new modern, fire proof
structure will be erected on the lo-
cation of the burned structure.

World Events Mirrored In Women's Styles; Tut Is Latest Now Followed

Women's dress is almost an out-
line of history, says the proprietor
of one of the La Grande "exclusive
shops."

"World events have a great ef-
fect on fashion," he says. "Ita-
lia is now much talked of, and the
vogue for the Russian peasant
style blouses has increased. A
few years ago the Balkans lent
us their colorful dress motifs, and
interest in Chinese and Japanese
patterns goes in more or less regu-
lar cycles, based on world inter-
est in these countries." He stop-
ped a minute and then concluded,
"And, of course, there's King Tut
to take into consideration."

MAY BUILD CATHERINE RAILROAD

(Special to Observer)

THE PARK, Mar. 31.—Farmers
along Catherine creek have been ac-
cused by a man high in the au-
thority of the alleged deal in tim-
ber lands for the proposed railroad
up the creek. The purpose of this
man is apparently to discover ten-
tatively what will be the approxi-
mate cost of the right of way thru
the many farms along the creek. He
went as far as stating that the rail-
road was going up the creek this
summer, but may not reach the Park
the first season; that a much stronger
firm had hold of the proposition,
which was guaranteed that the deal
was going to materialize soon. It
is to contentions of many that the
deal is completed, and for causes
to the interest of the company, it is
held from publicity.

This railroad project is not en-
tirely new, as there have been ac-
tually three surveys for a railroad
up the creek, in past years. There
has been a number of attempts made
by lesser companies to finance the
deal, but with no apparent success.
And many wild cat propositions have
been taken up, which have raised hope
with the confidence of the people.
But this new concern, whose name is
withheld at the present, is known to
be genuine, in fact, it is known, that
the backings of the new company
goes back to Weyerhaeuser, so it is
reported.

Vast Acreage Sold.
A few years ago, the papers of
the country had the news that 25-
000 acres of land had been thrown
open by the National Forest, and had
been purchased by some eastern com-
panies with headquarters in Spo-
kan. This was the tract of timber
land at the head of Eagle and
Catherine creeks. About half goes
to Eagle, while the other half comes
down this way. Then the Scott Tim-
ber and Lumber company, of which
Stonedahl and Davis, of Union, are
agents, owned nearly four-fifths of
all timber in several townships, and
this company is reported to having
sold its interest to a larger concern.

Stonedahl and Davis, a real estate
firm in Union, are holders of nearly
all the remainder of the timber in
this belt, which it is believed, will
be shared and parcel of the com-
pany because they have been very
active in promoting such as this,
which is about to take place.

Then the recent purchase of the Hall
ranch, which was estimated some
time ago at about 18,000,000 feet of
pine, goes a long way in verifying
the fact that there will be large
operations done in the near future.

Operations Not Far Away.
When it is considered that the
timbers are getting very scarce in
close proximity to the main line, and
the finest belt of timber in Eastern
Oregon lying at hand on Cath-
erine creek, one is justified in be-
lieving that the time is near when
the sounds of falling trees, the toot-
ing of the logging train, will be
heard.

While some are pessimistic as to
(Continued on Page Five)

CONSOLIDATE U. P., S. P., SAYS LOVETT

(By Associated Press)
SAN FRANCISCO, April 2.—The
Southern Pacific and Union Pacific
should be consolidated if the old hill
lines in the Northwest are united as
proposed by the interstate commerce
commission by Hale Holden, presi-
dent of the Burlington railroad, said
Judge Robert Lovett, chairman of the
Union Pacific, at an interstate com-
merce commission consolidation hear-
ing today.

Lovett said that the Hill lines con-
solidation would far overshadow com-
petitors in any other railroad sys-
tem in the United States in size and
strength.

The complete report of Judge Lov-
ett's speech will be printed in the
La Grande Evening Observer tomor-
row.

WILL OBSERVE LEGION SUNDAY

The American Legion Post No. 43
of La Grande and the Ladies' Auxil-
iary will meet Wednesday evening in
the K. of P. hall for their regular
monthly business session, which will
be followed by a joint social, dancing
and refreshments to be featured.

Several matters of importance are
before both organizations to be acted
upon at that time.

Next Sunday has been designated
throughout the United States as Leg-
ion Sunday, a time when every post
in America will hold fitting services,
commemorating the day. The ar-
rangements for the holding of a pro-
gram in the Methodist church on that
day will be taken up and plans per-
fected.

Another matter that will be before
the meeting will be the preparations
for Tree-Planting Day, set for April
10th, which the Neighborhood Club of
La Grande is sponsoring, asking the
aid of the Legionnaires and the Ad
Club, to aid them in carrying out the
plans. A committee from the Ad
Club, headed by A. W. Nelson, and
one from the Legion, headed by
Charles Harding, will meet tonight
for the purpose of making plans for
the Tree-Planting day and these will
be reported at the Legion meeting.

Several other matters will be dis-
cussed Wednesday evening and the
post commander urges all Legionnaires
to be present at that time.

EX-KAISER, BRIDE DEFINITELY BREAW

(By Associated Press)
YORK, Eng., April 2.—Former
Emperor William and his bride
Princess Hermine, have definitely
separated because of domestic trou-
bles, says the London correspondent
of the Yorkshire Evening News.

Light and Power Company Plans Many Improvements, J. P. Lottridge Goes East

J. P. Lottridge, general man-
ager of the Eastern Oregon Light
and Power company, of Baker, Ore.,
left last night for Milwaukee, Wis.,
where he will attend a meeting of
the board of directors of the com-
pany. At this meeting plans will
finally be approved for improve-
ments to be made by the company
to fortify against a recurrence of a
shortage of power like that of the
past winter.

According to an advertisement
of the power company elsewhere
in this issue, extension and im-
provements are planned that will
require the expenditure of ap-
proximately \$100,000. The de-
tails of these plans will be an-
nounced after the meeting in Mil-
waukee. Mr. Lottridge will be ab-
sent from Baker for two or
three weeks.

COMMERCIAL SECRETARIES MEET TODAY

EUGENE, April 2.—State devel-
opment will be the topic of the daily
program of the third annual meeting
of secretaries of chambers of com-
merce of the state, which opened
here today, to continue throughout
the week.

W. B. D. Dodson, general manager
of the Portland Chamber of Com-
merce, and J. W. Brewer, general
secretary of the state chamber of
commerce, will lead in the discus-
sions. The entire morning session
of each day will be devoted to short
talks and round table discussions of
various angles of state-wide devel-
opment plans.

In addition to consideration of
state development plans analyses of
best methods now utilized in hand-
ling state publicity and tourist trav-
el membership problems, and gen-
eral and specific questions before
secretaries will be discussed.

There will be talks by business
men and university professors.
George A. Mansfield, president of the
Oregon Farm federation, Clarence
Bishop, Pendleton Woolen Mills,
Fred N. Wallace, manager of the
Tumalo Irrigation project, and Lynn
Sabin, secretary of the Grants Pass
chamber of commerce, are among
the speakers on the week's program.

DECISION UPHOLD
SAN FRANCISCO, April 2.—The
decision of the United States dis-
trict court at Portland, dismissing
government action to deprive Joseph
Woernle, Portland attorney, of citi-
zenship because of alleged disloyalty
during the World War, was upheld
today by the United States circuit
court of appeals. Woernle was ac-
cused of writing letters in the early
days of the war relative to uphold-
ing Germany and criticizing the
United States and later he was al-
leged to have obtained a passport
in his own name for Han W. Bohm,
German reserve army captain. The
court held that the evidence was not
conclusive that Woernle intended to
subvert allegiance to the United
States although "some of his remarks
go to the limit of extreme criticism.
Citizen once bestowed cannot be
slightly taken away," said the court.

POPULENCE
The most vital units in the econ-
omy operation of motors are
Pistons and Piston Pins, and
in stock, and with our ex-
piment we are able to give you
piston assembling service.

DAYLIGHT ROBBERY IS STAGED

(By Associated Press)
ST. LOUIS, Apr. 2.—Five or six
men, armed with sawed-off shotguns,
today held up the mail truck in the
business section, took nine pouches of
registered mail for delivery to large
business firms including banks and
brokerage houses, locked the driver
and messenger in the cage of the
truck and escaped.

The police asserted that it was the
boldest robbery in the city's history.

327 Letters Geno.
ST. LOUIS, April 2.—Chief Post-
office Inspector Reuther stated that
a hurried checkup showed that 327
registered letters in the pouches
were stolen, the value is not expected
to exceed \$2,000 however.

Marilyn Tie in Gray Suede, Patent Lea- suede, with light weight sole feels—one of the classiest shoes

Bootery Inc.

Paradise for Tired Feet

206
MENHARDT
ARCH-ALD
ROCHESTER
OVER SMITH, Mgr.

to Hold
Power

most vital units in the econ-
omy operation of motors are
Pistons and Piston Pins, and
in stock, and with our ex-
piment we are able to give you
piston assembling service.

Many Attended Church Easter Sunday; Day Was Success, Despite the Rain

Special Easter Day services
were held yesterday in every
church in La Grande, in line
with the "Go to Church Easter"
drive, sponsored by all denom-
inations. Congregations responded
to the urge and every church in
the city reported an increased
attendance. To attempt to go
into detail and chronicle the
beautiful and appropriate ser-
vices held in each church would
take many columns.

In addition to the services
held in the churches, Easter Day
was observed by many society
events, dinners and in many and
diversified ways in La Grande.
The weather was nearly ideal
during the morning, but all denom-
inations, the sky began to
assume a threatening aspect and
by noon a slight downpour, that
increased in volume, started. After
three o'clock, the rain ceased
and, although cloudy, the re-
mainder of the day left little
wanting.

The consensus of opinion
throughout the city was that,
considering the weather, the day
was one of the most successful
Easter Sundays for many years.

**PROGRESSIVES
TO GO AFTER
TAX DODGERS**

Program Planned for Levies
Against Inheritances and
Gifts and Undistributed
and Excess Profits.

WASHINGTON, April 2.—A pro-
gram for tax legislation in the next
congress tentatively agreed upon by
the "Progressive bloc" of the house
was made public Sunday night by
Representative Frear, Republican,
Wisconsin, who declared "several
measures have been drawn to meet
weaknesses of the 1921 revenue
law."

The bloc, he said in a statement,
will urge adoption of a constitutional
amendment to bring investments in
tax free securities and stock divi-
dends within the taxing powers of
the federal government, an increase
in the inheritance tax, and enact-
ment of a gift tax, a retroactive tax
on undistributed profits and an ex-
cess profits tax.

Legislation which would require
the treasury to make tax records
public also will be sponsored, said
Mr. Frear.

After Tax Free Holdings.
Commenting on the need for a
constitutional amendment "to reach
tax free holdings or stock divi-
dends," the Wisconsin representa-
tive, who is a member of the house
ways and means committee, said
that single individuals often hold
millions of dollars tax free "where-
as many professional men are paying
far larger taxes on their personal
service income alone."

A gift tax, he declared, will be
urged as a serious step in preventing
estate tax evasions.

By making the undistributed profits
tax retroactive the friends of
this legislation would hope, Mr.
Frear states, "to reach corporate
surpluses laid annually and after-
wards distributed in stock dividends."
Declaring that "profiteering is un-
limited," the statement advocated an
excess profits tax upon the "enor-
mous corporate profits that are es-
caping any excess profits tax today."

THE WEATHER.
(By Associated Press)
PORTLAND, Apr. 2.—Occasional
rain tonight and Tuesday.

THE MARKET.
(By Associated Press)
PORTLAND, April 2.—Livestock
steady, eggs steady, butter unset-
tled, extra cubes 42 to 43 cents.

LOCAL BOOTH AT CORVALLIS WINS HONORS

Union County Ad Club Suc-
cessfully Competed With
20 Commercial Booths

WAS DESCRIPTIVE
OF LOCAL SCENES

Prepared By Wm. Heughan
Waldo Stoddard and Earl
C. Reynolds; 4700 Wit-
nessed Business Show.

One more feather for the hat of
the Union County Ad club—a feather
that represents something worth-
while.

According to a communication from
Earl C. Reynolds, secretary of the
Ad club, the Ad club won first prize
in the O. A. C. Business Show held
in Corvallis Saturday. About 20
members of the Chambers of Com-
merce of the state had booths rep-
resenting the industries and products
of their respective localities and La
Grande emerged first. Independence
placed second and Hillsboro third.

The booth that won first prize was
built around a watercolor painting
representing the mountains of the
county (the Blue mountains) and was
completely encased in a blue back-
ground. A logging train bringing
logs to a miniature saw mill, unload-
ing them in the mill pond and later
taking them up the log chute to the
mill, was a feature of the display.

Various products, such as flour,
breakfast food, bread, apples, and
the like, were arranged in the booth
neatly and scenic views around the
county were also on display as well
as views of the city, both airplane
and ground views. Signs telling of
the industries, payroll and general
information, also caught the eye.

The prize winning booth was ar-
ranged by Waldo Stoddard, William
Heughan and Earl Reynolds, and in
general represented the lumbering,
farming, livestock and payroll in-
dustries of La Grande and the coun-
ty. Competition between the various
booths was keen but despite the vic-
tory on the part of the Ad club
booth was clearly earned.

According to reports about 4700
people were present and saw the ex-
hibit the first day of the show. Mr.
Reynolds sends a glowing report of
the show, stating that it was of an
exceptionally high standard, and was
a greater success than was at first
expected. Mr. Reynolds is now at
Eugene and will remain there for a
few days attending a meeting of the
State Chamber of Commerce secre-
taries.

AD CLUB LUNCH IS TOMORROW

Tomorrow noon the members of
the Union County Ad club will gath-
er at the K. of P. hall for their regu-
lar Tuesday noonday luncheon. An
address by A. C. Hampton, superin-
tendent of the La Grande schools,
on the "Pitman System of Schools,"
will be the principal event on the
program, and will be supple-
mented by musical numbers by the
Ad club quartette and the high
school saxophone quartette.
C. J. Black will act as presiding
officer and urges all to be present.

Sun Yat Sen Interviewed By Prof. H. S. Quigley

Reverend G. H. Quigley received
yesterday an interesting letter from his
son, Professor H. S. Quigley, of the
University of Minnesota, now on two
years' leave of absence, and spending
his teaching political science in Tsing
Tua College, Peking, China. It was
descriptive of a trip taken in January
to Southern China and the Philip-
pines, telling of an interview from
Dr. Sun Yat Sen, the president of the
Southern Republic of China, which is
of sufficient interest to merit pub-
lication.

"This was to be the greatest day of
my trip, for I talked with Dr. Sun
Yat Sen for nearly an hour. As I
was leaving he presented me with an
autographed copy of his book, 'The
International Development of China.'
His house is in the French conces-
sion at Shanghai, 28 Rue Moliere. It
is of foreign style construction, Amer-
ican rather than European. In the
living room were tasteful decorations
and furniture, partly Chinese, partly
foreign, all blending well and having
a homelike atmosphere, but a homelike at-
mosphere. Dr. Sun occupied me in his
study upstairs. It is also, though some-
what crowded, was tastefully furnish-
ed. It was with a real sense of the
honor of the occasion that I shook
hands with Dr. Sun. He was clean-
shaven and dressed in Chinese cloth-
ing which made him appear a little
stouter than his usual picture portrays
him. At first he seemed a trifle in-
disposed to talk but we got immedi-
ately into the subject of the foreign
relations of the country and though I
tried twice to go, each time he urged
me to stay. Meantime letters and call-
ing cards were continuously coming
in. His main contention was that the
foreign powers were responsible for
his failure to unify China into an or-
derly republic. He declared that the
powers want a weak and corrupt
China, not a strong one, and that their
propagandists were continually block-
ing his effort by calling him a dream-
er and a visionary. I thought he re-
sented the imputation—at any rate he
resented its effects upon his efforts.
He stated that time after time he had
gotten things started by overthrowing
Shih-kai, Chang Hsun and others, and
each time the powers had thwarted
him."

(Continued on Page Eight)

Spring Bonnets, Shoes Feature Easter Parade

NEW YORK, April 2.—Attended
by a smiling sun but with far from
balmy breezes, the annual Easter day
parade on Fifth avenue Sunday was
notable for the variety of spring
wear and the number and variety of
furs.

Swathed from ankles to chin in
her winter garments milady exhib-
ited only spring head dress and foot-
wear, and except in occasional in-
stances did other than a trailing
skirt edge give a hint of what is to
be the prevailing mode.

Colors predominated in all attire,
not hidden by winter coats and the
effect Tutankhamen was apparent.
Hats were smaller and the Egyptian
influence brought back the turban
in multi-colored, decorated with ac-
cords, hieroglyphics and what-not.
But on the whole, small colored
straws, highly adorned with flowers
and fruits or riotous colors were the
most apparent. Red seemed to be
the prevailing color for hats, al-
though the mixture was bewildering.
Colored Shoes the Mode.

Colored shoes also seemed the
mode, with heels to match. Blue
shoes and chiffon hose were popular,
while red shoes and black chiffon
hose were second choice.

What was visible of milady's frock
and suits frankly displayed a return
to long ankle length skirts. Side
panels seemed to give the most
striking effects from the Egyptian
styles, while the skirts were much
more full than during the past sea-
son.

Spring coats were few, but those
that appeared were of the jacket
variety. Gloves were to match their
costumes.

Man wore about the same toggery
he has appeared in for years. A
coat seemed to be higher collars than
usual and many silk hats were
brought out. Canes were numerous.
The chilly weather withheld the pas-
sage of spats.

Fifth avenue was crowded through-
out the fashionable district and at
the conclusion of Easter services
thousands of persons joined the
throngs of promenaders. It was not-
able evident that in ultra fash-
ionable circles women withheld dis-
playing their finery until warmer weather
as previously exhibited spring
costumes were noticeably sheer.