La Grande Evening Observer

VOLUME XXVI | MEMBER OF ASSOCIATED PRESS | LA GRANDE, OREGON, THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 1923. | MEMBER OF ASSOCIATED PRESS | NUMBER 154

RECORD SALE 890,000,000 FEET TIMBER

Fred Herrick, of St. Maries, Idaho, Is Successful Bidder.

DEAL INVOLVES ABOUT $4,000,000

Construction of Common Use Railroad in Malheur National Park is Stipulation.

(By Associated Press)

PORTLAND, Apr. 5.—The sale of 890,000,000 feet of timber in Bear Valley, Malheur National Park, at the headquarters of the Silvies River, to Fred Herrick, of St. Maries, Idaho, was announced today by District Forester Cecil. Herrick bid $2.80 per thousand for 77,000,000 feet of yellow pine.

The deal involves between $3,000,000 and $4,000,000 and the construction of a common use railroad from Burros to Crane to Seneca.

The only other bidder was the Brooks-Scanlon company, which bid $2.00 per thousand for the pine.

DR. MOSSMAN IS ELECTED ELDER

The annual meeting of the First Presbyterian Church was held last evening, opening with a basket supper at 6:30 at which time nearly one-half of the congregation gathered for this social hour. Reports were given by the various activities of the church with most encouraging reports from the Ladies Aid Society, after their regular meeting of the afternoon, at which time the Lenten season envelopes were opened with over $1,000 given by the women of the church towards the completion of the pipe organ fund; and the Trustees of the church, who were able to report all bills paid and the church entirely free of debt. The missionary interests of the church showed over $1,000 given to the missionary enterprises, and all the societies funding in a splendid manner.

Dr. E. P. Mossman was elected to the Eldership of the church, while all other retiring officers were re-elected for three years. With all the reports in the hands of the clerk the church showed a good growth, and the outlook is most promising for the new church year, which began last Sunday.

Plans are about completed for the erection of a new church building this summer with improvements made to the manse property, thus enabling the congregation to be better housed for their expanding work.

Mr. Ross, in speaking of the meeting, said it was most encouraging to look forward to the leadership of the Presbyterian church of La Grande with such a loyal membership.

RABBI LAFEE INJURED.

(By Associated Press.)

SAN FRANCISCO, Apr. 5.—Rabbi Alfred J. Lafee, 22, the youngest rabbi in California, was found unconscious with his skull battered, and partially strangled in a downtown hotel room today after he had registered with some men in sailor uniform. He may die. Lafee was robbed of a diamond stick pin, watch and chain and his money.

Oro Dell Hearing is Concluded Yesterday

Two Klan Oficials Are Arrested On Embezzlement Charges; Freed Under Bail

ATLANTA, Ga., April 5.—J. T. McKinnon, chief of the investigating department and N. W. Forney, cashier of the Ku Klux Klan, surrendered today on warrants sworn out by E. J. Jones associate of Emperor Simmons, charged larceny after trust.

McKinnon is charged with embezzlement of $80000 of the Klan funds.

They were released under $1000 bonds each.

Both are officials under Imperial Wizard Evans.

HARDING PLANS TO VISIT THE PACIFIC COAST

President Plans ot "Feel the Pulse" of the Western Half of the Country.

(By Associated Press)

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla., April 5.—President Harding is understood to contemplate a proposed summer trip to the Pacific Coast, not only to present to the western half of the country his policies and plans, but to ascertain the western viewpoint on national problems. In other words, to "feel the pulse" of the west.

Tentatively his plans call for from 15 to 20 addresses in representative cities on the Pacific Coast.

AIRPLANE HOPS OFF FOR BOISE

La Grande citizens heard the Lincoln standard bi-plane buzz overhead for the last time this morning for at approximately ten o'clock the airplane, carrying as passengers, C. A. Kauffman and Weber Appel, the owners, hopped off for Boise, Idaho, and as the Observer goes to press, should have been safely put away at the Gem State Capital for several hours. According to Mr. Appel, the trip to Boise should take about one hour, with wind conditions favorable, as they were this morning. Somewhat faster than by rail or auto.

The bi-plane, which the two men purchased from the La Grande Aircraft company sometime ago, was set up, after a winter in storage, about a week ago, making one of it's first flights on Easter Sunday. Since that time several trial flights have been made, practically all ending successfully.

Yesterday's flight was not quite so successful however, and incidentally delayed their departure for Boise, which they had formerly planned on making yesterday.

Accompanied by Bill Stanfield, the two men took the air, and following a short flight, at a height of about 2500 feet, started down. All went well until they landed. Gliding along the field, the airplane hit a swale that tipped the aircraft up and deposited it on its nose, breaking the propellor but in no other way causing any damage. A little consternation among the occupants of the plane was naturally noticed.

But this morning, equipped with a new propellor, the plane hopped off like a top, headed east.

THE WEATHER.

PORTLAND, Apr. 5.—Rain tonight and Friday.

The hearing, conducted by the Public Service Commission of the state of Oregon, to determine whether or not the Oro Dell overhead crossing will be constructed, the cost of which is estimated at approximately $60,000, which began in the city hall yesterday morning at 11:15 o'clock, was continued, following noon adjournment, at 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

The main line grade crossing, which was created about a year ago, when the railroad company closed a crossing near the brick yards and opened one at a point about 100 yards from the Oro Dell bridge, was given considerable attention at the hearing yesterday afternoon. The entire group of officials visited the Oro Dell locality immediately after lunch and on their return County Judge U. C. Couch took the stand.

Mr. Couch stated that the road in question was not a county road—at least, the county did not own it, and that he was of the opinion that it was a private road.

Inconvenience Some

When asked whether he thought it feasible for an overhead crossing to be constructed, he stated that a few families would be inconvenienced by closing the grade crossing, 100 yards east of the present Oro Dell bridge, and that unless the benefits to be derived by closing the road would overbalance the inconvenience to these people, he thought it would not be feasible.

T. H. Cross, W. H. Lundia and Samuel Hiatt, all residents near the proposed crossing in their testimony, told of the danger at present to school children having the cross the tracks and crawl under the cars on their way to school, but wanted the grade crossing placed at Crook street, where it would be more convenient to them as the proposed crossing was out of their way and would not be used by them at the proposed location. Other testimony showed that it was not necessary for the children to use this means of crossing the track, but that they could go across the track via the Second street viaduct.

Stearns Testimony.

City Recorder J. E. Stearns read, in evidence, the minutes of the Commission meeting of July 20, 1921, at which time a motion was unanimously made and carried, assigning the rights of the city, created by Ordinance No. 870, series of 1918, wherein certain franchise rights were granted the O.-W. R. & N. Co., of which they have accepted the benefits, in consideration that said company construct and maintain either an overhead or underground crossing at or near Oro Dell. The purpose of this was to determine whether the O.-W. company should pay the complete cost of the overhead crossing as proposed, or only a part of the said cost, over their tracks.

Bollons Testimony.

W. Bollons, superintendent of the second division of the O.-W., gave testimony that the railroad company had received the benefits of the franchise granted in Ordinance No. 870, series 1918, and had built a grade crossing over their tracks near the present bridge at Oro Dell, and that J. D. McKennon, then president of the La Grande commission, and County Judge J. F. Phy had objected to an underground crossing.

Judge Phy, formerly county judge,

(Continued on Page Eight)

President Harding Buys His Birthplace; Plans To Remodel the Premises

(By Associated Press)

MARION, O., Apr. 5.—when he leaves the White House the President plans to return to the scenes of his early childhood to become a gentleman farmer and will spend much time in writing, according to an announcement made by friends following his purchase yesterday of a 265-acre farm in North Bloomfield township, where he was born. The president expects to visit the farm in July.

MOUNT GILEAD, O., Apr. 5.—President Harding Wednesday purchased his birthplace—a farm in North Bloomfield township, Morrow county—where, as a barefoot boy, he spent his childhood days.

The deal was consummated through French Crow, postmaster at Marion, O., a lifelong friend of the president, who acted as his personal agent. The deed was delivered to Mr. Crow by Harry Erickson, who has owned the farm for a number of years.

Plans now under consideration it is understood, call for a complete rearrangement of the premises, including a modern bungalow and golf course. Friends close to President Harding, said he contemplates spending much of his "time after retirement from the White House on the old farm in writing and getting back to nature."

ORDER INQUIRY IN RAILROADS OF NORTHWEST

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Apr. 5—An inquiry into the extent to which railroads failed last summer to furnish proper facilities in the Pacific Northwest, was ordered today by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The time and place of the inquiry will be announced later.

A Senate resolution, passed last January, asked for a report on the subject.

TRY MANDAMUS CASE TOMORROW

The trying of the mandamus proceedings, directed at the county court by Mayor Joe Trippler, of Cove, and others, demanding that the county court build a paved hard surfaced road from Island City to Cove, is set for Friday morning, at 9:30 o'clock, in the circuit court, with Judge J. W. Knowles presiding. Attorneys Ed Wright, and Crawford and Eakin represent the defendants, while the plaintiffs are represented by John S. Hodgin.

La Grande Improvement Bonds Are Held to Be of a General Obligation Type By Attorney

DISCOVERER OF KING TUT TOMB DEAD

Earl of Carnarvon Passed On at Two O'Clock This Morning.

MYSTICS BELIEVE DEATH IS CURSE

Of Opinion that the Ancient Egyptian Mystic Incantations Responsible for His Demise.

(By Associated Press)

LONDON, Apr. 5.—The press, discussing the death of Lord Carnarvon at Cairo early today, reflects the popular feeling that perhaps there is really something in the story that ancient Egyptians set a mysterious death trap in the tombs of their rulers, to punish through poison those who disturbed the resting places. Fears of further retribution, it is suggested, may deter Egyptians from again touching Tutankhamen's tomb.

(By Associated Press)

CAIRO, Egypt, Apr. 5.—The Earl of Carnarvon died peacefully at 2:00 o'clock this morning. He was conscious almost to the end. His death was due to blood poisoning through the bite of an insect with the later development of pneumonia.

Death occurred at the Continental hotel in Cairo Thursday morning.

The physician's certificate giving the exact cause of death has not been made public up to the present, but the latest reports indicate that death was due to lobar pneumonia in both lungs, complicated with pleurisy.

The death of the Earl of Carnarvon comes soon after the culmination of the exploit that brought him chiefly into public notice—the discovery of the rich tomb of Pharaoh Tutankhamen in the valley of the kings in Egypt by the archeological expedition which he headed.

While the press of the world was still devoting no small amount of space to the notable contributions to the worlds' art and history, which Lord Carnarvon and his fellow explorer had uncovered, came the sad news that he had been suddenly stricken down and was lying seriously ill in

(Continued on Page Eight)

Four More Oil Promoters, Arrested on Fraud Charge, Furnish Bonds, Are Freed

FORT WORTH, Tex., Apr.5.—Four additional oil men who voluntarily surrendered were released on bond Wednesday in connection with the federal investigation being conducted in the oil promotion business in Fort Worth.

The government is now nearing the home stretch in the roundup of oil swindlers. Out of 25 warrants issued, 24 arrests have been made.

The total sum of bonds given so far totals $330,000, the highest individual bond demanded was $25,000, and the lowest $5,000.

Several La Grande men were interested in the oil concerns that the men, headed by Dr. Cook, were promoting.

DIRECTORS OF COUNTRY CLUB ARE ELECTED

General Conditions of the Country Club Are Very Optimistic; The Financial Conditions Are Very Good.

The regular annual meeting of the members of the Country Club was held recently. A large number of the members were in attendance.

The new directors, elected to serve in place of the seven retiring, are as follows: Fred Kiddle, Dr. A. L. Richardson, Chas. Reynolds, Chase Bohnenkamp, Sam Clinton, Wm. Siegrist and S. D. Crowe.

A report of the activities and condition of the club was made by the treasurer and all the members were pleased at the splendid financial condition of the club. Notwithstanding the fact that the club was inaugurated and built at a time of great financial stringency, the club has met all bills promptly and has been able to reach the present season without carrying over any bills and with sufficient income assured for the year to enable the directors to carry on a program of improvement and expansion.

The by-laws of the club were amended to provide that the annual meeting should be held the second Monday in January, instead of in April, as at present. It was also resolved that dues should become due in January for the next year, instead of April.

Tornado Passes Eighteen Dead

ALEXANDRIA, La., April 5.—The number dead in a tornado which late yesterday swept Alexandria and Pineville, a town across Red River from here was placed today at 18. Sixty were injured and property damages are placed at $500,000.

JURY HANGS.

ST. JOSEPH, Mich., April 5.—The jury in the Foster case is still out early this afternoon apparently in a hopeless deadlock.

VALUES PORTRAITS

NEW YORK, April 5.—Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt braved a coffee house fire today to aid restaurant attaches to rescue two oil paintings of her husband, the late ex-president.

R. W. Montague Gives Opinion

Teal, Winfree, Johnson and McCulloch Al. Give Opinion

PAVING PROGRAM TO GO ON AS PLANNED

Contention of City Attorneys, Green & Hess, That Bonds Were O. K. Is Upheld.

Richard W. Montague, editor of the Oregon Digest and perhaps the most able municipal lawyer in Oregon, has confirmed the opinion of Green & Hess, city attorneys, and J. D. Slater, former city attorney, to the effect that contemplated bonds for municipal improvements are general obligation bonds of the city, under the Bancroft Bonding act of this state. The opinion of Messrs. Teal, Winfree, Johnson and McCulloch, bonding attorneys of Portland, has also been received to that effect.

It will not be necessary to hold an election, as was previously contemplated by the commission as heretofore suggested by the Western Bond and Mortgage company, to meet the demands of certain bond purchasers.

With the opinions on record, what was thought would prove a serious block to the paving program for this summer, was removed and the paving program will be advanced as at first planned.

Request Denied

Following the report and discussion of the bond matter, the request, entered by the County Health association asking that the city agree to pay the expense account of the health nurse each month, which would probably amount to about $30 on the average, was again taken up. City Manager Hayes further reported on his investigation into the matter and following a short discussion, Commissioner Black moved that the request be denied. Commissioner Brownton seconded the motion which was then put to a vote and carried.

Monthly Reports

Monthly reports, in addition to the city manager's weekly report, were received last night, the following being read: Police department, city manager, Union county health nurse, fire department, the recorder's and treasurer's reports.

Petitions Granted

Three petitions were received last evening, all of them being granted.

A petition asking that a cement sidewalk be constructed on the east side of Fourth street, with its terminal at J street and thence south for seven blocks, was further explained by one of the signers, the Rev. Ira R. Aldrich; then being granted.

The second petition was for the improvement of Ninth street from N to M and N street from Eighth to Washington.

The third petition was for a concrete sidewalk on Twelfth street from L to K and on K avenue from Twelfth to Eleventh streets.

An invitation to attend the Pacific Rocky Mountain Tourist Company's association April 15th, at Spokane, was read by Recorder Stearns. No further action was taken on the matter.

Complains of Dogs

A complaint, which had come to the attention of Commissioner Black relative to permitting dogs to run at large was reported. According to the complaint, dogs had been gathering at the home of the complainant and inflicting damage to newly arranged flowerbeds and in other ways being a nuisance. Discussion ensued on the legal point of whether the city could make a ruling at present to restrain such dogs and was followed by an order to lay the

(Continued on Page Eight)

Twenty-Seven Motorists Erred During Past Month

Largely due to the fact that a continuous check is being made by the police department, as well as the county officers, on the motorist who fails to comply with traffic regulations, the number of arrests made during the month of March by the police department is very large—totally 47. Police Chief Clint Haynes presented his monthly report to the city commissioners in session last evening, the report reading as follows:

Total number arrested, 42. Total number of convictions 32. Amounts of fines and forfeitures $160. Amount of cash bonds put up by those arrested $500.

Only Six Drunks.

Of the total number arrested only six were drunks. Two were pinched for having liquor in their possession and one for disorderly conduct. These figures tends to show that drunkenness is at least temporarily decreasing.

Five of the total were arrested for the state of Oregon and for outside points and one peddler was arrested for not having a necessary license.

Many Traffic Violations.

Twenty-seven were arrested for traffic violations, the charges consisiting of cutting corners, speeding, driving without proper lights, etc., according to the chief of police. Cutting the corners seems to be the most common form of violation of the traffic rules but speeding comes a close second.

Sleepers Accommodated.

Another item in his report to the commission that proved of interest was that 81 "sleepers" were accommodated during the month. "Sleepers" is defined in this case as men going through who are either on the drift or broke and spend the night in the jail, instead of cluttering up the streets and other portions of the city as was formerly the case prior to the adoption of the plan. City officials are now satisfied that the plan is a very commendable one as it tends to reduce vagrancy to a great extent with no expense to the city. No charges are made for the sleeping facilities and on the other hand, it is no expense to the city.

THE FLOWERS THAT BLOOM IN THE SPRING, TRA-LA

New Location

I have moved from the Blue Mt. Garage to the Washington Avenue Garage, and desire to meet all old patrons and many new ones.

GENERAL REPAIR WORK

EXPERT SPRING AND WHEEL MAKING AND REPAIRING

Complete Line of Oils and Grease

Clyde Shaw

Now Located at Washington Avenue Garage