

NEAR THREE SCORE BURNED

MODERATOR SURPRISES CONVENTION

Dr. Charles F. Wishart Honors Rev. Walker Instead William J. Bryan.

UPSETS THE USUAL CUSTOM PRACTICED

Declares That Unity Is the Chief Aim of Presbyterian General Assembly; Scores Bryan's Evolution Opinions.

INDIANAPOLIS, May 18.—Dr. Charles F. Wishart, newly elected moderator of the Presbyterian general assembly, caused a surprise today when, contrary to the usual practice, he failed to name his nearest rival, William Jennings Bryan, as chairman of the important committee on bills and overtures, the steering committee of the convention.

Instead Mr. Wishart selected Rev. Hugh H. Walker, of Los Angeles, for the chairmanship, relegating Bryan to the leadership of an important commission on some missions. Walker's committee will pass on an overture from Philadelphia on the preachings of Harry Emerson Fosdick, and Bryan, as leader of the fundamentalists, is ranked as an active opponent of liberalism as Dr. Fosdick believes in it.

The new moderator declared unity is the chief aim of the assembly and that committee assignments indicated the intention to subordinate conservative views and Bryan's opinions on such subjects as evolution, in the interest of harmony.

PROGRAM IS ANNOUNCED

Baccalaureate Services for Graduating Class of L. H. S. to Be Held On Sunday Evening.

The program for the baccalaureate services of the Senior graduating class of the La Grande high school, has been announced. The services will be held in the high school auditorium Sunday evening, May 20th, at eight o'clock.

The program follows: Hymn, "Come Thou Almighty King," glee club; Invocation by Reverend H. K. Wallis, pastor of the community church of Island City; Hymn, "Now the Day Is Over," double quartet. Scripture reading by Reverend A. T. Stittom, pastor of the Baptist church; Anthem, "Oh Father Whose Almighty Power," (Handel) by glee club; Sermon "Life's Question," by Reverend William Crosby Ross, pastor of the Presbyterian church; Hymn, "How Firm a Foundation," by glee club; Benediction by Reverend R. H. Bogstad, pastor of the Lutheran church.

DENIES THAT PAUL PFERDNER BORN ON OLD OREGON TRAIL

The following article appeared recently in the columns of the Portland Oregonian, denying the alleged birth of Paul Pferdner, July 4, on the Old Oregon Trail.

"I noticed an article in the Oregonian which states that Paul Pferdner, 762 Overton street, of this city, was born on the Old Oregon Trail. This statement is not correct.

"My father, Paul Pferdner, was born near the city of Hamburg, Germany, and came to the United States when a small boy. True, he was born on July 4, 1843, but a long way from the Oregon Trail. Let it be understood that I am a German in name only and that I am 100 per cent American.—May Pferdner."

Weather Forecast

PORTLAND, May 18.—Generally cloudy tonight and tomorrow, cooler in the eastern portion with heavy frost.

London Doctor Claims It Is Possible to Live 152 Years; Touts Ale

(By Associated Press) LONDON, May 18.—The ripe old age of 152 years is within the grasp of anyone, says Dr. Josiah Oldfield, the latest aspirant to the shoes of Ponce de Leon.

He believes in a diet of coarse bread, porridge, buttermilk, vegetables, butter, cheese, and home-brewed ale, and solaces Americans by saying that the last mentioned article is not essential to the long life, although a potent factor in attaining it. He asserts that the vitamins in the barley in the old home-brewed ale are responsible for the stamina of the English of the last five centuries.

SITE SELECTION MEETING TOPIC

La Grande School Board Discusses Location of the Proposed East La Grande Schoolhouse.

The school board of District No. 1 met at 4:45 yesterday afternoon at the office of the clerk, with one member absent, and discussed, among other things, the securing of a site for the proposed school building in the eastern part of the city. They discussed pro and con the merits and demerits of a number of proposed sites, but the board was divided in its opinion as to what site to select.

Some members advocated the selection of sites on the north side of the railroad track, in the "Y" section between Cove avenue and the Pioneer Flouring Mill, while other members insisted that a site ought to be selected on East Adams avenue.

The whole board, however, was pronounced in its opinion that the prices asked for some of the proposed sites were entirely too high and unreasonable. One available tract was offered to the board at a price of \$800.00 an acre.

The members who favored a site on Adams avenue argued that in addition to that being the proper site, which would serve the city in the future, that there were no sewers, sidewalks or other necessary conveniences provided on the other proposed sites, while the members who favored the selection of a site contiguous to the mill argued that the future growth of the city would be in that section, and also that the Adams avenue location would be dangerous to the life and limb of the children, due to the proximity of the state highway.

Another complication was the proposition made by residents in the northwestern part of the city, near the brickyards, demanding another school house in that section.

The discussion lasted until long after the dinner hour, and the board adjourned, subject to call, without having arrived at any decision.

PENDLETON WINS STATE TITLE

(By Associated Press) EUGENE, May 18.—Pendleton high school was winner over Astoria high school in the finals of the Oregon state interscholastic debate held here Thursday afternoon at the University of Oregon. Pendleton was also winner of the state series last year. The decision was 2 to 1 in favor of the Eastern Oregon representatives.

The winning team upheld the affirmative of the question "Resolved that the United States should adopt the policy of ship subsidy." Rex Kramer and Donald Heath were the representatives of Pendleton.

The La Grande high school team, who are not entered in the state debating league, met the Pendleton team this year and defeated them in a dual debate at Pendleton and La Grande. Had La Grande been entered in the league she would undoubtedly have won the state honors.

Bonar Law is Reported Ill

(By Associated Press) PARIS, May 18.—The health of Andrew Bonar Law, according to information from persons close to the British Prime Minister, is so seriously affected that his retirement appears only a matter of weeks, even days.

Mayor and Mrs. Kiddle Have a New Daughter

At ten minutes past the midnight hour this morning a fine daughter was born to Mayor and Mrs. Morton Kiddle, of Island City, at the Hot Lake Sanatorium. Mayor Kiddle is receiving congratulations today on the new arrival, who comes into the world feeling fine and ready to radiate that supreme happiness to her parents.

WARNS CHINA MUST FREE PRISONERS

U. S. Minister Schurman Gives Peking Ultimatum.

DEMAND MENTIONS "DRASTIC ACTION"

Relations Between Foreign Representatives and Peking Are Reported as "Strained."

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, May 18.—Minister Schurman reported that negotiations were apparently in progress between the bandits and the Chinese government. The captives may be released soon.

(By Associated Press) SHANGHAI, May 18.—American and British captives will be shot Tuesday if Chinese troops are not withdrawn, according to the bandits' "final ultimatum," brought from their mountain stronghold today by Marcel Olivier Berube, French prisoner, released for the purpose.

TSAO SHWANG, Province of Shantung, May 18.—Get the foreign captives out of the grip of the Suchoo bandits, and talk terms afterwards; otherwise there will "drastic action," was the ultimatum laid down to Chinese government officials here late Thursday by Dr. Jacob C. Schurman, American minister to China.

The American diplomat, who stopped off here on his way from Shanghai to Peking, told the Chinese officials congregated here to negotiate with the brigands, that unless the foreign prisoners were released immediately, serious international complications would result. Dr. Schurman said:

"End these delays and confusion between various departments of the government. Get the captives out, and talk terms afterwards, otherwise there will be drastic action taken."

Relations between the Chinese government and the representatives of foreign countries are described on all hands as "strained," as a result of the bandit situation.

WHEAT QUOTATIONS (By Associated Press) PORTLAND, May 18.—Hard White \$1.32; Northern Spring \$1.16.

Northwestern University Football Star Is Held In Leighton Mount Case

CHICAGO, May 18.—Charles "Chick" Palmer, star football player and senior student at Northwestern university, was held in custody Thursday night in connection with a disappearance in September, 1921, of Leighton Mount, freshman student, despite denials by Palmer that he knows anything about the case.

Palmer was taken into custody after Mrs. Violet Bachman, a former friend of his, had told assistant state's attorney that Palmer told her shortly after Mount's disappearance that Mount was safe and that he knew where he was and that he later told her he could not talk about the case.

KRUPP APPEAL IS A FAILURE

Court of Revision Upholds Action of Court Martial in Convicting Krupp Directors.

(By Associated Press) DUESSELDORF, May 18.—Sentences imposed by the recent court martial upon Dr. Krupp Von Bohlen and other Krupp directors tried for instigating opposition to the French at the Krupp plant at the time of the shooting, March 31st, were confirmed today by the court of revision. The convicted men will be transferred to prisons in France pending further appeal.

Mistreatment of Japs Is Held the Only Possible Reason for Disagreement

(By Associated Press) NEW YORK, May 18.—The treatment of Japanese in this country is the only thing apt to disturb the friendly relations between the United States and Japan, said Japanese Ambassador Hanhara, addressing the Japan Society here today.

MAY PARDON INDIAN

(By Associated Press) PORTLAND, May 18.—Columbia George, aged 83, a Umatilla Indian in Leavenworth who has served half of a 20 year sentence following his conviction of killing Timot, another Umatilla, may be pardoned if the recommendation of Robert R. Rankin, federal prosecutor when the Indian was convicted, is approved. Rankin joined the Indian's attorney in asking for the pardon. The petition recites that the conviction was obtained on circumstantial evidence.

Scores Killed When Fire Sweeps Hall During High School Graduation Fete

PROHI FORCES CAPTURE THREE LARGE STILL

With the rain falling in torrents last night Sheriff Warmick organized his posse with Deputy Sheriff John Stricker, City Marshal Brahears of Elgin, and Carl Gasset of the La Grande police force, and grabbed what is without doubt the largest still ever operated in Union county and possibly one of the most elaborate plants ever placed in the Eastern Oregon country.

Ten miles north of Elgin on the breaks of the Grande Ronde river was the location, very inaccessible and the officers overcame extreme handicaps to reach the point. Their efforts were rewarded with one 85-gallon still, one 35-gallon still and a smaller one. Two of the stills were in operation at the time and thirty-five gallons of newly made moonshine was also taken.

E. M. Johnson, who has been in Union county for several months was arrested and with him a partner whose name the officers have not given out.

In order to get out of the canyon it was necessary to follow a narrow winding trail, and to do this the two prisoners, who had been handcuffed together, were separated so they could proceed in single file. In this darkness and rain the partner to Johnson got away and is now running at large some place in that country with a pair of the sheriff's handcuffs locked on him. Johnson was brought to La Grande and lodged in jail.

"This is a remarkable capture," said District Attorney Wright today. "For some time we have had this place spotted and the officers last night planned and executed one of the most successful raids under extreme difficulties that has ever been pulled off in the state of Oregon."

Kept Pack Mules.

The foundation of the still was built of heavy bricks, which was brought into the canyon, evidently, on pack mules, which are also alleged by the officers to have been used to bring the finished product of the distilling plant, to outside points for distribution. A string of mules was found at the plant.

American Girls Nearing Jungle Standards, Say Missionaries to Africa

CHICAGO, May 18.—American girls of tender years are going back to jungle standards so fast that missionaries returning from Africa are horrified to see the change, Paul Rader, president of the Christian and Missionary Alliance conference, declared at the conference meeting which opened here Thursday and is being attended by foreign missionaries from all parts of the world.

Missionaries returning to this country are aghast to find the change that has come about in girls from 12 to 15 years old. Doctor Rader said, adding: "They are approaching the jungle standard. Little black girls under tropical suns mature early and little American girls are maturing too quickly under the retic influence of jazz and sport."

The next generation will see old women in their twenties, he declared, unless the tendency is halted.

BRAGG RESIGNS AS PRINCIPAL

Due to Appointment on the State Industrial Accident Commission; The School Board Seeks New Principal.

Included in the business transacted by the school board last evening was the reluctant acceptance of the resignation of E. E. Bragg as principal of the Central grade school. Mr. Bragg has been prominently identified with public school education in Union county for the past quarter of a century, and his resignation is caused by his appointment by Governor Pierce to the desirable position of a member of the State Industrial Accident Commission, which will necessitate his removal to Salem.

The board is making every effort to secure a competent man to take the position of principal of the Central school, and the superintendent is corresponding with one of the leading grade principals of Salem. Other applications are also being considered. The resignation of Miss Inez Elliott and Miss Edith Bragg, grade teachers, were also accepted. Miss Elliott being called home by the illness of her mother, and Miss Bragg is planning to enter the University of Oregon this fall.

Other business transacted was the decision of the board to advertise for bids for the installation of an automobile stoker in the Rivera building, it being the opinion that considerable money can be saved in the cost of fuel by the installation of such a device.

THE MARKET (By Associated Press) PORTLAND, May 18.—Cattle weak hogs and sheep steady; eggs unsettled, butter firm.

Remains of an Ancient Race Found, Excites Scientists

SANTA BARBARA, Cal., May 18.—The Indians whose remains have been found in the Burton mound excavations in this city probably were an ancient race when Columbus discovered America, according to J. B. Harrington of the Smithsonian institution, who is superintending the work.

"We know positively that the skeletons already found close to the surface in our excavations were buried long before the Spaniards came to California," said Harrington. "The most recent remains certainly have been lying there for not less than five centuries."

"In none of the graves opened is there any evidence of contact between the natives and the Spaniards of the mission period. I confidently believe that the discoveries here will carry us back to remote antiquity."

Remarkable Teeth Development. Nothing has excited more interest among the excavators and the crowd of spectators than the remarkable tooth development of these ancient natives. In all the skulls that have been taken out not one has been found with a cavity in the teeth. The molars are broad and are much worn down by the grit and sand in the acorns and other foods of these Indians.

In some of the skulls the incisor of front teeth are almost as broad as a white man's molars and meet together, edge to edge, like the front teeth of a horse. These are also worn down to a surprising extent, said Harrington.

"It must be remembered," he said, "that the Indians used their teeth like a third hand. One has only to watch an Indian woman making baskets or sewing to observe this. The white man's teeth seem decadent when one views the magnificent dentition of these skulls."

Lived to Great Age. Many of the skulls already found indicate that the men had lived to a great age. Harrington added:

"We have found many skulls in which the sutures were grown together absolutely solid, so that the line of demarcation could hardly be seen. This indicates a very great age. Among the mission Indians in the past time, many natives reached an age of 155."

Families Wiped out

A Comedy Commencement Drama Turns to A Tragedy.

OIL LAMP EXPLODES, PANIC SEIZES CROWD

Single Exit to Hall Blockaded By Collapsed Steps; A Tangled Mass of Humans Piled Up.

CAMDEN, S. C., May 18.—Seventy-one persons, including whole families, are dead, two are missing, and dozens injured in a fire at Cleveland school, eight miles from here, last night.

An oil lamp overturned, exploded on the stage as the commencement play was reaching a climax. The comedy turned to a tragedy as a panic seized the audience, consisting of 300 parents, brothers, sisters and relatives of the graduates.

The steps from the single exit collapsed, hurling scores into a tangled mass and leaving others in a death trap as the fire spread.

73 TOTAL DEAD (By Associated Press) CAMDEN, S. C., May 18.—The deaths in the Cleveland school fire stood at seventy-three today noon with but one missing, according to a corrected list.

BRITISH MISSION PACKING

(By Associated Press) MOSCOW, May 18.—The British mission here, while acting without order to leave, today began packing up.

U. S. CONSULATE BOMBED

(By Associated Press) MEXICO CITY, May 18.—Two bomb explosions on United States property here this month, the first May 4, when a bomb was thrown into the embassy garden, and the second this morning when an explosion occurred in the consulate building, are attributed to radicals demonstrating against recognition negotiations. No casualties were reported.

