

La Grande Evening Observer

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LA GRANDE, OREGON, TUESDAY, MAY 29, 1923.

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NUMBER 200

FORESTS ARE BLAZING IN TWO STATES

Dread Fires Grip Timber of Minnesota and Wisconsin.

OVER 500 FIGHTING MINNESOTA FLAMES

About 20 Fires Reported Burning in Iron Range District in Northern Minnesota.

(By Associated Press) ST. PAUL, May 29.—More than 500 men are battling forest and brush fires in Northern Minnesota. In the Iron Range district between 15 and 20 fires are burning.

Situation Serious.

(By Associated Press) ST. PAUL, Minn., May 29.—The forest fire situation in northern Minnesota is becoming critical. W. T. Cox, state forester, said Monday night. The hot, dry weather of the last week, coming after a late spring and before the vegetation has had an opportunity to make its appearance, has increased the fire menace in the entire district north of a line extending from Duluth to Leech Lake, he said. Only an early rain will put an end to the spring fire season.

More than 500 men were combating the flames Monday in more than a dozen different districts, according to reports to Mr. Cox. For the most part, the fires are light fires, running in the tall grass and small growth on cutover land.

Fires in Wisconsin.

(By Associated Press) SUPERIOR, Wis., May 29.—Forest fires increasing in size and scope were reported in northern Wisconsin Monday night, according to advices here from that region.

Hundreds of summer cottages and homes at the numerous lake resorts in Douglas county are threatened. Seventy-five men have been fighting the fire about White Fish lake and succeeded in temporarily checking the fire late Monday, it was said.

The fire near Lake Gilmore is said to have reached huge proportions. Over 500 men, including many members of the Superior fire department, are battling flames in different sections, reports indicate.

Fires are reported in the regions of Blue Hill and Bass lakes, Lake Nebagamon, Brule, Iron River road, Focklor, Gordon and Chaffey settlement.

CLUB PLANS TO CHECK TIRE AND CASING THEFTS

The Union County Auto Club has suggested a plan that would bring all doubt to rest as to the theft of tires that has become so common recently. The plan, in brief, is that every car owner register the number of each casing and the engine number of the car with the club, who, in case of theft, would be able to give definite information to authorities and to the club members, who will individually consider themselves special police in tracing down stolen tires and casings.

ROUTE OF PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPHHELD

SALEM, May 29.—The supreme court today upheld the Polk county suit against them by independent citizens, who objected to the proposed route of the Pacific highway in Polk county. The suit has been holding up construction of the highway from Monmouth south and between Holmes Gap and Rickreav.

WOULD DISBAR ATTORNEY

(By Associated Press) OLYMPIA, May 29.—Disbarment proceedings were filed in the supreme court today against Elmer S. Smith, Centralia attorney, who was one of the few defendants acquitted in trials resulting from the Armistice Day shooting in Centralia in 1919. The complaint was signed by 28 members of the Lewis County Bar based almost entirely upon Smith's connection with the L. W. W.

Weather Forecast

Portland, May 29
Tonight and Wednesday show
rs.



Chamberlain Goes West

George Chamberlain, ex-United States Senator and at present a member of the Federal shipping board until his resignation takes effect, passed through La Grande this morning on No. 17 bound for Portland where he will transact official business. He was accompanied by his wife. Mr. Chamberlain plans to return to Washington in June.

HALT BUSINESS MEMORIAL DAY

All La Grande Is to Join In Commemoration of Fallen Heroes; Program for Day Is Complete.

All La Grande will cease work tomorrow, Memorial Day, to pay tribute to those fallen heroes of past wars who gave their lives that the Stars and Stripes might continue to float in triumph among the emblems of the world.

The business section will not open their doors during the day. Memorial Day is a legal holiday and the mercantile section, the banks, and the professions will unite in declaring the day one for commemoration. The city hall and the courts, with the exception of the fire department, the police station and the sheriff's office, which must necessarily remain open, will also close their doors. The city commissioners will not hold their regular executive session Wednesday evening, and will hold a meeting Thursday afternoon at one o'clock instead. In line with the rest of the city, the Evening Observer will issue an early morning paper and will join the citizens of La Grande in observing Memorial Day.

Excellent Program.

An excellent program has been arranged. A parade, to form at the Y. M. C. A. at 9:45 o'clock, will march from that point at ten o'clock to the Masonic cemetery, where the graves of dead veterans will be decorated and proper services held. At noon the W. R. C. and the Ladies Auxiliary to the Legion will serve dinner in the K. of P. Hall for all ex-service men of wars in which the United States has participated. In the afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, fitting services will be held for the entire community in the Baptist church under the supervision of the G. A. R. with the American Legion and the Spanish War Veterans in direct charge. Speakers will appear on the program and several music numbers have also been scheduled.

To Sell Poppies.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Legion will hold a poppy sale during the day for the benefit of the disabled soldiers and to increase the fund for a permanent cemetery in France. These flowers will be sold at ten cents and were made by the disabled soldiers of the World War now quartered in Portland. Donations to the fund will be gladly received.

Band Dance Postponed.

The dance and concert by the La Grande Band that was to have been held in the evening has been postponed.

Charley Graffeo Is 28th Victim of Ax Murderers

(By Associated Press) BIRMINGHAM, Ala., May 29.—Charley Graffeo became the 28th victim of Birmingham's mysterious ax-murders when his body was found behind a counter in his store in an outlying residential section early Monday night. The skull had been crushed by a single blow of an ax. The police records show that this was the 28th similar attack during the last two years.

Evidence Gathered In Probe of Vets Bureau

WASHINGTON, May 29.—Some of the evidence gathered in the Senate committee's investigation of the Veterans' Bureau has been turned over to the Department of Justice for possible criminal action against the individuals involved.

Allege Dental Fraud.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—Charges so far laid before the attorney general relate to alleged frauds in dental work in veterans' hospitals, but it was indicated today that the justice department might be asked to take action also against certain persons connected with the purchase of hospital sites and other property by the veterans bureau.

BAND TO PLAY AT STOCK SHOW

The La Grande Municipal Band, just recently accepted, consisting of 20 members, will play during the three days, June 6-8, at the stock show. Evening concerts will be held in addition to playing during the afternoons at the grounds. The band will consist of 20 pieces.

SHIP BOARD MAY ACCEPT OFFER MADE

Chairman Lasker Indicates That Billion Dollar Bid May Win.

BIDDER WOULD BUY THE ENTIRE FLEET

Offers One Billion Dollars for the Merchant Marine Fleet and Property in Connection.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—The shipping board will investigate thoroughly offers of more than \$1,000,000,000, received yesterday, for the entire government merchant fleet and all property of the shipping board, Chairman Lasker said today.

If the bidders back up their proposal "there can be no doubt but that the board will make the award to them."

The offer was presented by John W. Mack, president of the Columbia postal supply company of Silver Creek, New York. He proposes an initial payment of \$51,000,000 and \$50,000,000 yearly thereafter until the entire fleet is paid.

Receives Bid.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—A definite bid informal offer to purchase the entire active portion of the government merchant fleet has been received by the shipping board in the form of a single bid.

The proposal was delivered to members of the board late Monday by a representative of a group of financial interests whose identity was not disclosed. The envoy of the bidders offered to post a bond of \$1,000,000 as a guarantee of sincerity.

The aggregate amount suggested in the proposal was said to be in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000,000.

GONE 50 YEARS

YORK, Penn., May 29.—Believed dead after 50 years absence, Lee Dixon, aged 72, former Indian fighter who was with the wagon train at the Massacre on Big Horn river when General Custer was killed, returned to York today, surprising his sister, Mrs. Mary J. Reider.

His sister was skeptical when Dixon confronted her and announced he was her brother, but after he had satisfactorily answered questions concerning his childhood days she was convinced.

The Market.

PORTLAND, May 29.—Cattle steady, top hogs 25 cents lower, other grades steady, prime light \$8.25, sheep, eggs and butter steady.

Explosion Is Fatal to 5

(By Associated Press) FAYETTE, Ill., May 29.—Five men are reported killed and three injured in an explosion at the Hercules powder company plant here today.

WILL PRESENT SOLO NUMBERS

Personnel of the Enterprise Philharmonic Orchestra Includes Many Soloists.

Many soloists of high talent are enrolled in the personnel of the Enterprise Philharmonic Orchestra, among them being Mrs. A. K. Parker, Guy Craig and Oscar Shafer. The coming concert is attracting widespread interest in Union county as well as La Grande and many will attend from Union, Imbler and other nearby cities.

Vocal Soloist.

Mrs. A. K. Parker, soloist with the Enterprise Philharmonic Orchestra, which plays in concert at the Tabernacle on Thursday evening next, is a daughter of one of the pioneer families of Wallowa county, her father, George Mack, being cashier of the first bank of Fayette, Mo., in 1840. As Helen Mack, Mrs. Parker had a wide acquaintance throughout Wallowa county and Eastern Oregon. Mrs. Parker inherits her musical talent, her father during all the time of his residence in Joseph being leader of the Joseph Concert Band, one of the famous amateur bands of that period. Mrs. Parker has a highly cultivated voice of wide range and very attractive and sympathetic quality.

Finished Artist on Cornet.

Among the outstanding developments of the Enterprise Philharmonic Orchestra in a musical way is Guy Craig, cornet soloist. Mr. Craig, who was little more than a beginner three years ago, is now a thorough and cultivated artist on his instrument. His triple tongue solo in the coming concert is a delightful number.

Well Known Clarinetist.

The Enterprise Philharmonic Orchestra occupied a similar position with its regimental band, serving four years in France. Five of them after the Armistice, at which time he was transferred to the Entertainment Division of the A. E. F. and toured Germany as a clarinet soloist with the orchestra connected with the musical comedy, "The Pink Stocking," which was produced for the entertainment of the soldiers. Mr. Shafer is a clarinetist of distinction and his solo, "Long, Long Ago," will be greatly enjoyed by his audience.

Daughterly Denies That He Will Resign Position

WASHINGTON, May 29.—Attorney General Daugherty, returning to Washington after a rest in Ohio, today attended the first cabinet meeting in several weeks. He denied reports which again have been circulated that he would soon resign.

NEW BRITISH CABINET NOW FUNCTIONING

Active Career of New Ministry Began in England Monday.

WILL CONTINUE LAW'S POLICY

Minister Baldwin Is Elected Leader of Conservative Party, Filling Post Held By Bonar Law.

(By Associated Press) LONDON, May 29.—The new government, completed by appointments of Sir Laming Worthington Evans as postmaster general with a seat in the cabinet, started its active career Monday in uneventful fashion.

Stanley Baldwin, the new prime minister, was elected leader of the Conservative party in place of the retiring premier, Andrew Bona Law, at a party meeting which was noteworthy only for the absence of Lord Birkenhead and Austen Chamberlain. The latter was evidently aggrieved at being ignored in the formation of the government.

The new premier and his ministers met parliament without ceremony. The customary speeches of eulogy and sympathy for the retiring premier and of welcome for the new head of the government were delivered briefly by the leaders of the various parties. Mr. Baldwin made no direct declaration of policy, except for the general statement that he would continue along the lines laid down by Mr. Bonar Law and by Conservative tradition.

Secretary Work Reports Substantial Improvement In Condition of Crops

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, May 29.—Substantial improvement in the crop situation on irrigation projects conducted under the interior department was noted in reports received Monday by Secretary Work.

"On southwestern projects excellent stands of cotton are being obtained," said the secretary in a summary of his advices. "In some cases a second crop of alfalfa already has been harvested. On more northern projects orchards have blossomed heavily, and little damage to the fruit has resulted from frost. A large area is being planted to sugar beets, and the price situation for this crop and potatoes indicates increased prosperity for the settler."

Clara Phillips Arrives.

NEW ORLEANS, May 29.—Clara Phillips, fugitive hammer murderer, arrived today from Honduras en route to Los Angeles in custody of a deputy sheriff.

"Dead Baby" False Alarm

The supposed discovery of the body of a dead baby near North Powder yesterday afternoon, which resulted in an investigation by Sheriff Lee Warnick and Hal Bohlenkamp, coroner, turned out to be a false alarm.

When the officials arrived at the scene they discovered that the "baby" was in reality a small animal, or rather the bones of a small animal, that rested in a discarded baby carriage in a field about five miles from North Powder.

British-Indian Town Stricken By Huge Temblor Is Report.

NEARBY VILLAGES REPORTED WRECKED

Teheran Advices Bring News of Calamity; Turbat-I-Haidari Is Scene of Many Fatalities.

BRYAN DEFEAT IS DISCUSSED

W. C. Ross, Presbyterian Pastor, Gives Interesting Talk at Chamber Luncheon Today.

Declaring that general satisfaction reigns among members of the Presbyterian church throughout the land over the defeat of William Jennings Bryan as moderator and presiding officer of the fundamentalists, W. C. Ross, pastor of La Grande's Presbyterian church, at the Chamber of Commerce luncheon today, gave a sharp, convincing talk on the church program.

Bryan, a much loved man by the Presbyterians, was defeated in his candidacy for moderator because of his pronounced stand on evolution and the ones upholding fundamentals were defeated in the great church gathering because, as Mr. Ross said, he believes everyone has a right to freedom of thought, freedom of conscience and freedom of education.

An interesting thing occurred when Dr. Sittou of the First Baptist church, took the floor following Mr. Ross and squared himself for an argument over the Bryan defeat. Mr. Ross dismissed the matter by saying if he should answer Dr. Sittou a ministerial discussion at some length might follow. Just as Chairman Charles Binger rapped for the next number another minister was on his feet; and it was plain that had the chairman not handled the situation with diplomacy, a religious argument of some length would have followed.

The luncheon today was served in the K. of P. hall with Mr. Binger in the chair. Stuart Bennett opened the program with two vocal selections which were up to his usual high standard. A quartet from Columbia college sang "The Rosary" and a Henry Ford song, and at the close of the latter W. C. Perkins, of the local Ford agency, offered free gasoline so long as they would drive their Ford.

William Miller announced the coming of the city commission today in passing a resolution refusing to join the railroad in a review of the Ors Bell crossing before the Public Service commission. On motion of Larson the chamber went on record supporting the city commission.

A. W. Nelson insisted that President Harding would be coming along over the Old Oregon Trail either July 3rd or 4th and asked that an elastic motion be passed asking the city's business houses to close on whichever day the president makes it to the top of the mountain. On motion of George Cochran all agreed to close whenever the president's wire arrives that he will be here.

F. West Watkins is to be the chairman of next Tuesday's luncheon.

Worker Instantly Killed.

(By Associated Press) JEROME, Ind., May 29.—Joe Bauer, enamel company laborer, was instantly killed Monday morning about 11:30, when his body was crushed in a bridge on which he was working. The accident occurred about five miles southeast of Jerome.

1,000 SAID KILLED BY EARTHQUAKE

Teheran Advices Bring News of Calamity; Turbat-I-Haidari Is Scene of Many Fatalities.

ALLAHABAD, British India, May 29.—Advices from Teheran report 1,000 persons killed by an earthquake at Turbat-I-Haidari. Many villages are reported devastated.

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SUMMER SCHOOL IS NOW OPEN; MANY COURSES OFFERED

A six-weeks term of summer school began at the La Grande high school yesterday with from 15 to 20 students enrolled. The school is being conducted in the mornings and evening under the supervision of Principal E. D. Fowler with Miss Bennett, Mrs. Thomas and A. V. Lindgren in charge. Credits will be allowed according to state rulings.

History, language, civics, commercial and other classes are being held during the morning, according to the convenience of the students and a geometry class is scheduled for the evening about 6:30 o'clock. It is possible that Bible classes will be started, shortly but no definite arrangements have been made yet.

OKLAHOMA CITY UNDER WATER

One Thousand Homeless; Lowlands Inundated; Citizens Forced to Flee; Heavy Rain Reported.

(By Associated Press) OKLAHOMA CITY, May 29.—Oklahoma City was in the grip of one of the worst floods in its history Monday night. Water covered miles of lowland along the course of the stream in the southern part of the city.

Passing towns, sources of the city's water supply, were completely isolated. More than 600 persons were homeless. The city's auditorium was converted into a barracks for the flood refugees. Seven hundred cats and hundreds were placed in the auditorium by order of Adj. Gen. H. E. Markham, who ordered out a small detachment of national guardmen.

Property damage, it is believed, will run into hundreds of thousands of dollars. A slight rise in the river was recorded Monday night. Heavy rains fell throughout the north Canadian valley Monday and federal weather bureau officials predicted the stream would go higher here.

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Everything In Readiness For Cattle and Horse Raisers

S. O. Correll, secretary, spent an evening with the Union Livestock Commission in completing detailed arrangements for the Tenth Annual Convention of the Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon, which will be held June 4th and 5th, 1923.

Mr. Correll said, "The auditorium with a hardwood floor 55 feet by 79 feet recently erected by the people of Union for this convention is centrally located, well arranged and in every way, suitable and convenient for this purpose.

"In addition to the commodious Union Hotel, the committee has listed and indured all available rooms in Union for the accommodation of the convention visitors, many musical numbers have been prepared and among other entertainment features will be a visit to the Eastern Oregon Experiment Station, Cowboy Breakfast, a dance on the evening of the 4th and the Stockmen's Annual Banquet and Annual Ball on the evening of the 5th.

Superintendent Robert Withycombe has stall fed a two year old heifer for the past year to be served at the banquet which will be given in the Union high school building.

"The 15th Annual Union Livestock Show will be held June 6, 7 and 8th. "Needless to say, the committee is very busy at this time, but the Union boys are certainly a live bunch and are going even stronger this year than usual. They have one hundred race horses for their track events at their show and the entry list of show stock is also larger than ever."