# La Grande Evening Observer

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## CONDITION OF GRAIN CROPS IS IMPROVED

### Winter Wheat in Oregon Within Three Per Cent of Normal.

### FRUIT PROSPECTS DETERIORATING

### Eastern Oregon Orchards Expected to Bear Heavily; Western Oregon Not So Fortunate.

(By Associated Press)

PORTLAND, June 11.—Improvement in condition of all grain crops during the month of May, with a deterioration in fruit crop prospects, are the high spots in the Oregon crop situation as of June 1, 1923, according to F. L. Kent, Agricultural Satistician U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. Condition of the Oregon Winter wheat crop is estimated at 97.0% of normal, which is higher than in any other important winter wheat state. Condition of the crop inother states ranges from a high mark of 98% of normal in Washington to 65% of normal in Kansas, the nation's heaviest wheat producing state.

Winter Wheat: Condition of the crop improved slightly in the state during the month of May. Good growing weather, for grain, prevailed during the month, although a little more sunshine would have been better. A good rain fell over much of the Eastern Oregon wheat country in June, and came at a very opportune time on the lighter soils. Much of the acreage is fully headed, and in some districts the crop is said to be a week or ten days earlier than usual. It is predicted that the crop will be ready for cutting before July 1, in the earlier districts.

Present condition of the Oregon crop warrants a forecast of about 19,500,000 bushels for the 1923 harvest. Last year the final estimate was 16,800,000 bushels, and two years ago, 20,910,000 bushels, and a five year average of 15,024,000 bushels. The United States crop for this year is now forecasted at 580,541,000 bushels compared with a final estimate of 586,204,000 bushels last year, 600,316,000 bushels two years ago, and a five year average of 589,858,000 bushels.

Spring wheat: Reports indicate the acreage seeded this spring was about 95.0% of that of a year ago. A fine fall for seeding over a large part of the state allowed for heavier than average fall seeding, and it is reported in some districts that there has been a decided trend toward the planting of more barley and oats and less wheat. The Oregon spring wheat acreage is now estimated at 237,000 acres with a condition of 95.0% thus indicating a probable crop of 4,005,000 bushels. Last year the final estimate was 2,864,000 bushels, two

(Continued on Page Five)

## Ralph Poston Given Award

EUGENE, June 11.—An emblem, awarded by the Associated Student Body of the University of Oregon to students who have for three years ben members of the Men's Glee club, was at the last meeting of the Associated Students awarded to Ralph Poston of La Grande. The award is granted in recognition of superior musical ability and is one of the most coveted honors that a student can receive.

Poston is a senior in the department of medicine and a member of the Phi Sigma Pi fraternity, men's living organization. He is also president of Mu Phi Alpha, an organization of men interested in music, who have for their purpose the encouragement of American music in America. Poston will be graduated on June 25, of this year.

## RADIO PRIVACY CLAIMED FOUND

### New Inventions Solve Important Problem in Telephone, Says Engineer.

NEW YORK, June 11.—(AP)—Privacy has been made possible in radio telephonic conversations thru a device that "scrambles" words at the sending end, so that anyone listening in are only able to distinguish untinelligible sounds and which clarifys the tones to the person for whom the message is intended, it was announced Sunday by the American Telephone & Telegraph company.

The invention has been used successfully, it is said, over a 30-mile stretch of ocean between Los Angeles and Catalina island.

The problem of obtaining privacy in radio conversation was solved by engineers of the Bell system, it was asserted, partly as a result of the post war scarcity of cables for undersea use.

"The wireless talk bridge," said an engineer of the company, "which has given satisfactory transmission across the 30-mile gap of water night and day since 1920, was designed to permit two way talking between the mainland and the island.

**Privacy System Devised.**

"Heretofore, talks over the Catalina island radio link have been picked up by amateur receiving stations in this region. The privacy system was designed to remedy this. It is not claimed that the new system is absolutely secret. An ingenious person might devise a set which could listen to the system but such a set would be much more complicated than the ordinary set.

"The new radio attachment, before putting the messages on the air will distort or scramble them, and no receiving set which is not specially designed to unscramble them can obtain intelligible sentences."

**The Market**

PORTLAND, June 11.—Cattle slow and weak, hogs, sheep, eggs and butter steady.

## LOSS BY FIRE MAY EXCEED ONE MILLION

### Train Sheds at Philadelphia Wiped Out by Flames This Morning; Loss Is of Magnitude.

PHILADELPHIA, June 11. — Fire early today practically destroyed the train shed at the Broad Street Station terminus, of the Pennsylvania railroad.

A number of passenger coaches, a quantity of mail and more than 3,000 pieces of baggage were consumed.

The loss on baggage alone may reach $1,000,000

## EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES LOW

SALEM, Ore., June 11.—Oregon, with a rank of sixth in point of wealth for each child and a rank of 16th in point of expenditure for each child, has not been extravagant in the conduct of its schools. This was the statement made today by J. A. Churchill, state superintendent of public instruction, after receiving a lengthy statistical report from the educational department of the United States government.

It also was set out in the government report that Oregon stands seventh in per capita of estimated wealth and 18th in per capita expenditures for education.

Superintendent Churchill said that, while education is costing the taxpayers large sums of money, the institutions of this state are being conducted more economically than those in many other sections of the country.

"While there is a general demand for curtailment of educational costs" said Mr. Churchill, "the persons who are crying the loudest would be the first to object if restricted facilities were applied to their own children.

"The business man and manufacturer who contends that an eighth grade education is sufficient for a majority of the children would never contest to having such a restriction placed about his children. He desires to have them obtain the best possible education and is willing to pay any costs that may be incurred."

Reports received at the state school superintendent's office indicate that the cry against higher taxes is widespread over the country and is not typical of any one or two states. In view of the demands for decreased governmental costs, Mr. Churchill said that in some parts of the country the schools had been made to suffer.

**Wage Increase Granted.**

CHICAGO, June 11. — Thirteen thousand maintenance of way employes and shop laborers of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul were granted wage increases ranging from one cent per hour to $10 pe rmonth, effective June 1st.

## Man Is Killed By Lightning

BOISE, June 11. — George Frank Nelson, 42, who lives on a farm three miles southeast of Kuna, was struck by a bolt of lightning at 11:35 Sunday morning and instantly killed. Nelson was inspecting his lettuce patch, and was about 200 yards from his home, when a heavy shower came up suddenly, accompanied by one bolt of lightning, followed by a heavy timber clap.

Nelson's clothes were practically torn from his body. One shoe was torn off and the other split down the side. There was a small hole in the ground beneath where the body was found.

### Horseshoes That Harding Will Pitch at Pageant to Be Nickel, Gold-Plated

BAKER, June 11.—A horseshoe tourney in which President Warren G. Harding will participate in the big celebration at the "Top O' Blue Mountains" is being planned by the Baker Y. M. C. A. under the leadership of Dr. T. J Arneson who has engineered like affairs for several years past. The winner of the tourney it is expected will play President Harding who is known to be a very capable artist in tossing the good luck irons.

The trophy which is a very fine leather embossed belt is now held by Fred Sheets and will go to the best man entered in the tourney. The list of entrants will be limited to 75 and will be drawn from the territory between Baker, Pendleton and La Grande.

The pins and shoes which will be used by the contestants will be of standard construction and weight and are now being nickle and gold plated in readiness for the event.

## BULLETINS

**Order Approved.**

**ST. PAUL, June 11. (AP)—A decision was reached by Federal Circuit Court of appeals today to approve the order of the Interstate Commerce commission giving the Southern Pacific control of the Central Pacific. Judge Walter H. Sanborn, who said the counsel had been notified to appear next Monday to argue the form of decision, announced the court's decision in a statement to the Associated Press as follows: "The United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the 8th judicial district, has concluded to enter a decree to the effect that the interstate commerce commission has authority to authorize and approve control by lease and stock ownership of the Central Pacific by the Southern Pacific."**

WHEAT MARKET

PORTLAND, June 11. (AP)—Soft White, $1.10; Western Red $1.05.

## DEATHS OVER WEEK END ARE MANY IN RUHR

### Five Civilians Shot at Dortmund Last Night; Two French Officers Killed Saturday; Arrests Made.

BERLIN, June 11.—Five civilians were shot to death and one seriously wounded at Dortmond last night, according to semi-official advices which did not state who was responsible.

Troops reinforcements arrived and occupied the city hall today. More than 100 persons were arrested. French troops arrested Acting Lord Mayor Fluhme and Acting Police Chief Martinius in consequence of the shooting Saturday night of two French non-commissioned officers.

## ENGLISH PAPERS RAZZ AMERICANS

(By Associated Press)

LONDON, June 11.—Certain English newspapers seem to delight in poking fun at American customs and manners, and some of the London publications make more or less of a practice of parading the idiosyncrasies and habits of American tourists. This is especially true where American customs differ from the orthodox traits of the Englishman.

A London newspaper with a circulation of a million has featured the following paragraph regarding a "cultural revolution" which was taking place in the United States:

**Cuspidors are being removed from countless American drawing rooms. Chewing gum is being scraped off parlor chairs. Several million Americans spend hours daily in practising the correct pronunciation of the words "aunt," clerk," "derby" and "advertisement."**

Then came the ironical information that "bootlegging is no longer the principal occupation of the cultured minds of America," and that much more time is being spent "in reading the social culture advertisements and learning how easy it is to misbehave unless one busy the "Book of Good Manners.'"

**Etiquette Sweeps U. S.**

The British public is told that a great wave of etiquette is sweeping America. "Half America's 110,000,000 people are now spending a large part of their time in watching the other half and seeing that they conform to the rules of social culture," says this satirical journal.

Patrons of restaurants are pictured as spending so much time watching one another that they eat only about a half what they consumed before the wave of etiquette struck America. The paper quotes a Broadway manager as saying that "when a diner uses his knife on a salad or takes two bites at a strawberry, such a hush falls upon the assembly that one can even hear the orchestra."

## State Money Is Invested

SALEM, June 11.—The state bond commission, at a special meeting held today, invested approximately $131,000 of funds of the state industrial accident commission in school district bonds. The commission is composed of Governor Pierce, State Treasurer Hoff and E. E. Bragg, member of the accident commission.

Governor Pierce today voted to purchase school district bonds in preference to liberty bonds, although he said he did not see how some of the districts would be able to meet their obligations.

Among the bonds purchased by the commission was:

School district No. 11, Union county, $20,000, to net 4.92 per cent; Hattram & Nelson.

## CITY JAIL IS BEING CLEANED

### Kalsominers at Work on Interior; No Prisoners Enrolled for First Time This Year.

Seizing a golden opportunity, that may not come again in many moons, the city jail officials are supervising a general clean-up of the city jail. The interior is being done over, in both the "bull pen" and the private cells, with white kalsomine and the cleaning corps are also going over things generally, making the jail spic and span for the coming summer.

For the first time this year, no prisoners are enrolled in the "city hotel." All is quiet and still at the offices of Chief of Police Clint Haynes with the exception of the swish of the kalsominers brush and the moving of furniture, during the renovations.

The police decline to make any prophecies on their summer boarders, stating that the crop will probably be about "normal."

### PRICES OF HOGS AT A LOW MARK

CHICAGO, June 11.—Hogs values touched $6.75 today, the lowest since January, 1912. In 1912 the price was $6.70 in June and low marks in 1911 was $6.72. Large receipts are given the reason for the decline.

### Romance Ended by Tragic Death Auto-Train Wreck

SANTA ANNA, Cal., June 11.—When Roy Roumbold, 26, driving an automobile but looking backward to wave a farewell to his mother instead of watching the train tracks ahead, a Santa Fe train near El Toro yesterday smashed into the car, killing Roumbold, Mrs. Hazel Pomery, aged 30 years, and her two children.

Mrs. Pomeroy was engaged to Roumbold.

## C. J. BLACK LIKES DURANT

### Purchases First Car of Its Kind in This Section; More Durants on Their Way Here.

C. J. Black, real estate dealer and city commissioner, has purchased a new Durant sport model five passenger car from J. D. Lynch, dealer. Mr. Black is delighted with his new automobile, stating he "likes the Durant very much and expects it to prove more than satisfactory."

Mr. Black is the first owner of a Durant car in this section of Eastern Oregon. Mr. Lynch, dealer, however, is expecting another car load of the automobiles in La Grande early this week.

## FLOODS ARE FATAL TO 4 IN MIDDLE WEST

### Property Loss Is Expected to Mount into the Millions.

### REPORT LOSSES IN SOUTHWEST KANSAS

### Three Thousand Said to Be Homeless; Chamber of Commerce Expects Loss to Exceed $3,000,000.

KANSAS CITY, June 11.—Four lives were lost, many persons are missing, and thousands are homeless as the result of floods in many sections of Kansas, according to reports today. The heaviest losses are southwest of Kansas.

Damage to property is estimated in the millions.

One is reported drowned at Arkansas City, one each at Topeka and Winfield, and another at Spring River.

The Arkansas City Chamber of Commerce today announced the loss; according to them it would be $3,000,000 and 3,000 homeless.

## SUPREME COURT MAKES DECISION

WASHINGTON, June 11.—Methods used by Federal Reserve Banks in Georgia and Virginia to compel banks that are not members of that system to cash at par checks drawn upon them by their depositors which reach the federal reserve bangs for collection or clearance were approved by the Supreme court today in cases brought against the Federal Reserve Banks at Atlanta and Richmond.

### DAILY PRODUCTION OF FORD CARS HIGH

"Daily production of Ford Cars and Trucks went over the 6,600 mark on Wednesday, May 9, it is announced through the Ford News," states the proprietor of the Perkins Motor company of La Grande.

"The production on that day was 6,615, exceeding by 25 the last highest day, Friday, May 4 ,when a record of 6,590 was established.

"The twenty-eight assembly plants of the Ford Motor Company throughout the country operate on an eight-hour basis, and the turning out of 6,615 completed Cars and Trucks in a day means that they were run off the assembly lines at the rate of one every four seconds.

"To make this enormous output possible, the tremendous manufacturing facilities of the company, embracing the great Highland park and Rouge River plants and other factory units, are operating on a twenty-four hour day of three eight-hour working shifts employing more than 100,000 men.

"Ford quality standards are consistently maintained in every operation entering into the construction of these popular cars."

**Will Leave for Portland**

D. E. Morgan and family of Haines are visiting with the L. M. Hoyt family today. Hoyt's will leave this afternoon for Portland to attend the Grand Lodge and Rose Show, and will also attend the commencement exercises at Monmouth. They will also visit at Seattle, and come home by way of Spokane.

## Supreme Court Upsets Portion of Kansas Industrial Court Law

WASHINGTON, June 11. — The challenge of Kansas Court of the Industrial relations made by the Charles Wolfe Packing company, of Topeka, was sustained by the supreme ccurt today on the ground that the business of the company was not clothed with such public interest as to give the state authority to regulate wages paid by the company. The court did not pass on the broad question of constitutionality of the Industrial Relations court.

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, June 11.—The power of a state to prevent strikes in essential industries by creating a court or commission with jurisdiction to adjust labor troubles was challenged in the Supreme Court by the Chas. Wolff Packing Company of Topeka, a subsidiary of the Allied Packers, in a case against the Court of Industrial Relations of Kansas.

The court is the first of its kind. Once before its life seemed threatened when Alexander Howatt, a labor leader, refused to appear before it while it had under consideration an impending strike in the coal fields of Kansas. A controversy over the constitutionality of the law was avoided at that time when Howat was held in contempt by a regularly constituted judicial court for refusal to obey an injunction it had issued. The Supreme court held his committment valid, but did not pass upon the jurisdiction of the Industrial Relations Court.

Kansas sought in creating the court to solve the problem of industrial unrest and relieve itself from the disastrous consequences so often attending labor strikes. The law provided that the tribunal should arbitrate differences between employer and employee before a suspension of industry. The state described the purpose of the law to be the continuity and efficiency of operation in such industries as supply the necessaries of life, the preservation of the public peace, health and welfare, and the prevention of economic waste. It did not attempt to regulate or control all industrial disputes, but only those affecting its food and fuel supply, and the manufacture of its clothing. Even in those industries the court was expected to act only in times of emergency.

Since congress in the packers and stockyards act assumed jurisdiction over all interstate phases of the packpurposing industry, Kansas contended that it remained for the states to regulate that part of the industry relating to hours of labor, wages and working conditions. The government during the world war had emphasized the importance of continuous and efficient operation of the packing industry, the state pointed out, by the appointment of Federal Judge Samuel Alexander as administrator to settle disputes and arranging wages and

(Continued on Page Five)

### Weather Forecast

Portland, June 11 — Fair tonight and Tuesday, warmer Tuesday excepting near

### PUZZLE PICTURE— HOW MANY VOTES FOR FORD HERE?

## Walla Walla Contingent To Pageant May Be Decorated

WALLA WALLA, June 11.—That Walla Walla's two thousand or more automobiles, which will on July third transplant a majority of the city's population to the "Top O' Blue Mountains" for the Oregon Trail pageant and reception to President Warren G. Harding, who will be there the entire day, should be well decorated with the national colors, is the latest suggestion down town today, as business men begin discussion of the next big event, now that the Pioneer Pageant has ended and Dayton Days will close tomorrow night.

It is pointed out that Walla Walla will have a mammoth representation at the celebration, which will be the only oppertunity the majority of people in this entire inter-mountain country will have of seeing, hearing, or meeting the president, while on his western tour, and for that reason some special efforts should be made to put Walla Walla on the map at Meacham.

Another suggestion, made by A. F. Alexander, who has been prominent in the Oregon Trail movement, is that each Walla Walla person should have a distinctive badge of some kind.

Commercial club officials have announced that they will soon begin preparations to organize the pilgrimage, so that Walla Walla may obtain a maximum of credit for the showing made.