

## ALASKA AID PLANNED BY OFFICIALS

No Boom is Expected To Result of Harding's Visit.

### DISCUSS MEANS OF SOLVING PROBLEMS

Secretary Hoover Expected To Make His Alaska Policy Clear in Statement Soon.

**CORDOVA, Alaska, July 20.**—President Harding and his party arrived here during the night and started today on a trip into the interior over the Copper River railroad.

**ABOARD U. S. HENDERSON WITH PRESIDENT HARDING, July 20.**—The consensus of officials in President Harding's party fixed as the conclusion of an inspection of Alaska approaches, is that the territory will gradually develop, but that no sensational boom can be expected as the result of the visit of the chief executive.

President Harding, Secretaries Hoover, Work and Wallace, and the remainder of the party, arrived at Cordova Thursday and are voyaging to Cordova and Sitka, the two stops remaining before Vancouver, B. C., which the Henderson is to reach next Thursday, proceeding to the United States at Seattle the following day.

**Hoover Has Plans.** Mr. Hoover is expected to make his Alaska policy clear in a statement to be issued soon. It is understood that the statement would be confined largely to fisheries, probably suggesting the creation of additional fishing reservations, with a view to conserving the supply by protecting it from excessively rapid harvesting.

**Factor Work** is said to favor amplification of the land laws, so that patents to lands in Alaska may be issued more quickly. He is believed to be of the opinion that the Harding administration would be unjustified in recommending to Congress a large appropriation for Alaskan development, but to assist the program that Congress should provide for development as they are needed.

**Development Slow.** Mr. Wallace has already announced his conviction that agricultural development in Alaska would be slow, and the farmers here have many difficulties to overcome before they get industry on a plane where success is assured.

## GRAND CLIMAX IS COVE GAME

Sunday's ball game at Cove between La Grande and Cove teams is to be more than the fiercely contested ball game—it is to be a magnet for a cherry carnival in all its glory. So interesting has it become that Andrew Loney, Jr., leader of the La Grande Municipal band, announced today the band would be in Cove Sunday afternoon and give a concert before the umpire called, "play ball."

Those who have followed the games between these two teams know that Sunday's event is to be one for blood. Each team's future happiness rests on the result of that game and there will be base ball players that will make the old-timers take notice.

La Grande expects to turn out en masse to root for the home team and to enjoy the cherry carnival which the Cove people are arranging during the afternoon. Anyone having an extra seat in their automobiles should call Earl Reynolds at Main 88 as he is making arrangements for all members of the band with transportation.

**Farmers to Picnic.** All farmers attending the farm crops tour on Tuesday of next week should take a basket lunch, states H. G. Avery, county agent. The party will stop at the J. A. Gaskill place near Imbler for lunch. Everyone should be provided with a picnic, as the Union County Farm Bureau has provided a large quantity of ice cream for the occasion. A complete program of the day's visit will be printed in Saturday's paper.

### Weather Forecast

Portland, July 20.  
—Fair tonight and Saturday.

## Liquor Fleet Plying Trade

(By the Associated Press)  
**ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.**—Boat-legalizers have set up a rum row nine miles off this city, according to coast guards and customs officials. A tramp steamer and a bark, said to be flying French colors, are included in the flotilla that numbers a dozen vessels.

Fishing boats propelled by automobile motors, with underwater mufflers, have been playing hide and seek with guards for several nights and have brought the stocks ashore, according to the custom agents.

## SWIMMING TANK BIG ATTRACTION

Country Club Out-Door Pool is Mecca of Both Sexes During Hot Summer Period.

Each evening many of the Country Club members and their families are using the swimming tank and picnic grounds at the club and great appreciation is being expressed for this feature. It is one that is enjoyed by every member of the club, regardless of age or sex.

A slight misunderstanding has occurred as to the use of the tank and it is the wish of the directors of the club to clear this up. For the big community picnic which was held recently to celebrate the burning of the mortgage against the club the use of the tank was open to everybody and all were invited to be the guests of the club on that occasion. However, the thought was given that this policy was to be continued and the tank thrown open to all.

The tank and picnic grounds, as well as the other features of the club are reserved for the members of the club, their families and their invited guests. Any member may have the privilege of inviting a guest, subject to certain restrictions but non-members are not entitled to the use of the tank or grounds unless invited by a club member. In explaining this one of the directors said: "We surely like to see all the opportunities of the club used and everyone have as good a time as possible but it costs a considerable sum to maintain the club and in fairness to the members who pay their membership and dues and provide the funds to keep the club we cannot allow any of its attractions to be given away without charge. The club needs new members and any person wishing to join should apply to the club secretary who may do so by making application to any of the members of the board of directors."

## I. W. W. Call Off Invasion

(By the Associated Press)  
**POINT ARTHUR, Texas**—The I. W. W. invasion of this city was called off at 11 o'clock Thursday night. A general strike at Gulf ports in protest against "political imprisonments" will be called instead.

### Anti-Saloon League Head Is Indicted

**NEW YORK, July 20.**—The grand jury today indicted H. Anderson, superintendent of the anti-saloon league, on the charges of grand larceny and forgery, and also suggested that the legislature investigate the league's activities since 1913, when Anderson became superintendent. Anderson pleaded not guilty. Bail of \$5,000 was fixed.

### State-Wide Harmonica Contest On August 5

**PORTLAND, Ore., July 20.**—A state-wide harmonica contest has been announced by Manager John Cordray, of the Oaks Amusement Park here to take place in Portland Sunday August 5. Three substantial cash prizes have been offered, the winner of the first to be proclaimed state champion harmonicaist. The contest is open to men and women.

### PROSPERITY LOOMS FOR WHEAT GROWERS

**CHICAGO, July 20.**—A cooperative agreement to curtail wheat production by the wheat growers of six states in a wheat producers conference of the southwest will clear the way for prosperity of wheat growers in 1924, said Governor Davis, executive vice-president of the Wheat council of the United States, in a report to the council made public today.

## LIVESTOCK IS ABOVE NORMAL, WEST PORTION

Pastures and Ranges Throughout West Favorable To Heavy Livestock Marketing.

**PORTLAND, Ore., July 20.**—The past month has been favorable to pastures and ranges throughout most sections of the West and the condition is considerably above normal in some states, according to the monthly western livestock report of the U. S. Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates. The average condition for all pastures is 93 per cent, or 5 points above June 1, with an average of 94 per cent for ranges as distinct from farm pastures, or 2 points above June 1. The condition of ranges is above 100 in six states, Idaho, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington, while Colorado, Montana, and South Dakota average 95 or over.

### Cattle for Fall Marketing

The number of fat cattle to be marketed this fall will depend in some measure upon the feed supply and financial conditions existing at that time. If range conditions continue favorable some cattle that would ordinarily go as steers and feeders will be sold as fat stuff. Estimates of the maximum numbers expected to be marketed this fall, providing conditions are favorable, have been made for some States and are quoted below. In Arizona probably about 119,000 head will be available compared with 112,000 in 1922, 101,000 in 1921, and 112,000 in 1920. About 90,000 fat cattle will be on hand for fall delivery in California. The percentage of grass fed cattle for market in the Flint Hills, Kansas, is about 98 per cent of normal, in the rest of east Kansas 94 per cent, and 91 per cent west of 98 degrees. About 140,000 fat will be marketed from Montana this fall, of which possibly 77,000 will be fat, and 63,000 steers. In western Nebraska a decline is noted and possibly about 88 per cent. (Continued on Page 4)

### REALTORS DISCUSS JOINT MARKETING

**PORTLAND, July 20.**—The reduction of the tax burden on real property is urged in resolutions adopted today in the Northwest Real Estate Association convention.

**PORTLAND, Ore., July 20.**—Cooperative marketing was the first subject for discussion on the program today of the convention here of the Northwest Real Estate Association. The speakers were J. Fred Brady, of Albany, Ore., and C. E. Spence, Oregon state market master.

Albert Curry, La Grande real estate man, affiliated with George H. Curry Real Estate Agency, returned to his home today after attending the convention in Portland which he pronounced as very successful.

## Dawn To Dusk Flight Fails

**WASHINGTON, July 20.**—The army air service announced today that attempts to make the daylight to dark flight across the continent in which Lieutenant Maughan has failed, twice, will be called off for this year because of shortening days.

**ROCKSPRINGS, Wyo., July 20.**—Vibration caused the leaks in the oil cooler of Maughan's airplane necessitating abandonment of the flight here yesterday after the completion of 1925 miles of the trip. The small leak soldered at Cheyenne yesterday afternoon when he stopped there.

**ROCKSPRINGS, Wyo., July 20.**—Lieutenant E. L. Maughan was forced down here by an oil leak in his plane and abandoned his attempt at a dawn to dusk flight across the continent. He landed here at 5:08 o'clock Thursday afternoon. Maughan left Mitchell Field, New York yesterday morning and until arriving at Rock Springs, went practically according to his scheduled plan. He arrived at Dayton, Ohio, at 8:35; St. Joseph, Missouri, at 11:25; Kearney, Nebraska, at 12:08; and Cheyenne, Wyo., at 2:32 yesterday afternoon. He planned his flight on the basis of 160 miles per hour average speed, and planned 20 minute stops at Dayton, St. Joseph, Cheyenne and Sal Duro.

## ROSS ELECTED HEAD OF SYNOD

La Grande Presbyterian Pastor is Moderator of Thirty-Third Synod of Oregon Church.

(By Associated Press)  
**EUGENE, July 20.**—Reverend William Crosby Ross, of La Grande, was elected moderator of the Thirty-Third Synod of the Presbyterian church of Oregon, which opened a week's session here yesterday.

**Portland, July 20.**—Livestock steadily, eggs, unsettled, some grades lower, selects 27 to 28 cents; first 25 to 26 cents. Butter firm.

**BAND CONCERT TOMORROW**  
The La Grande Municipal Band, under the leadership of Director Andrew Loney, Jr., will appear in concert this evening at 7:45 o'clock sharp at the intersection of Greenwood and Washington streets. The program, published in the Evening Observer yesterday, is followed, by critics, to be one of the best concert programs arranged by the local band. The concert tonight is one of the regular mid-summer outdoor series.

## ENGLAND FINDS BERLIN NOTE IS DELICATE TASK

Curzon Reported To Be Making Great Effort To Find Compromise On Passive Resistance Question.

**LONDON, July 20.**—Lord Curzon is experiencing more difficulties in the preparation of his note to Germany than has been expected. It is now reported that the note and the covering letter may not be dispatched to the allies until next week, but whether the trouble has arisen from political friction within the cabinet, as alleged in some quarters, or simply from the inherent difficulty of framing a reply to Germany which would not offend France, is not evident.

After Thursday's long cabinet council the foreign secretary had a separate conference with Premier Baldwin. This conference, which was at Downing street, prevented Lord Curzon from seeing Count De Saint Aulaire, the French ambassador, who called at the foreign office while the conversation was proceeding.

**Seeking Compromise.**  
It is believed although nothing is known officially, that Curzon is making the greatest effort to find a way of compromise on the part of passive resistance in the Ruhr. He has had conversations with the German ambassador, the latest of which was Wednesday, probably with the idea of finding how far the German government might be willing to recede from its support of the passive resistance movement, provided France could be induced to revert to merely civil occupation of the Ruhr. This question is believed to present far greater difficulties than the question of assessing Germany's capacity to pay, as it is a point on which neither the French nor German government is disposed to yield, and if some method could be discovered to save the faces of the two governments, it is believed that the financial points could be cleared up with less difficulty.

### EZRA MEEKER TO TRAVEL TRAIL

**NEW YORK, July 20.**—Ezra Meeker, a pioneer who has twice followed the old Oregon Trail across the continent, will for the third time traverse the famous western homeseeking trail, according to announcements made here. Mr. Meeker is 83 years of age and first traveled the trail in 1832 from his home in Ohio. Again in 1906 he went over it with an ox team. But this time he will make the journey by rail and automobile, following the old landmarks, until he arrives at his home in Seattle. His present plans will take him by rail to Omaha, thence by automobile to Portland, Oregon, and Seattle.

**Wheat Quotations.** July 20.—Hard White \$1.05; Western Red \$38.

**Hay Hands Hard to Get.**  
**BAKER, July 20.**—The hay harvest is one in full blast in the vicinity of North Powder. The work is being pushed rapidly despite the shortage of hay hands.

## Damage Done By Water Main

**SEATTLE, July 20.**—A bursting 30 inch water main in Sixth Avenue just south of Union street today tore a forty foot crater in the street.

An eight foot geyser flooded the basements within a radius of five blocks.

## GENERAL VILLA KILLED TODAY

Miguel Trillo, His Secretary, Said to Have Shot Villa; Trillo Killed in Ensuing Clash.

**EL PASO, Texas, July 20.**—General Francisco Villa, famous Mexican rebel leader against whom General Pershing conducted a drive into Mexico, was shot and killed at his home at Cuernavaca, Chihuahua State, early today, according to a dispatch from Chihuahua City. A local rebel uprising resulted in his death.

### Trillo Shot Villa

**CHIHUAHUA, July 20.**—Villa was shot and killed this morning by Miguel Trillo, his secretary. In an ensuing battle Trillo was killed by men loyal to Villa.

The latest reports said that the fight is still continuing. More than 100 casualties have been reported. The men who rallied behind Trillo engaged with the loyal Villa troops. Villa had about 800 men on his ranch, trained in handling firearms, having followed Villa and campaigned against Obregon prior to signing an armistice with Obregon. The movement headed by Trillo is reported due to ill feeling against Villa, which was due to a delay in paying his men.

**Biographical Sketch.**  
Francisco ("Pancho") Villa, guerrilla chieftain and bandit leader in Mexico for more than 10 years, declared that he had ended his career of outlawry in August, 1920, when, at the head of 900 followers, the remnants of what had once been his army of 10,000 men, he entered San Pedro, Coahuila, and, amid the cheers of the populace, announced the intention of himself and men accepting amnesty and settling down as farmers.

A few weeks earlier, Villa had surrendered to Federal forces at Salinas. He then declared his adherence to Provisional President de la Huerta and General Alvaro Obregon, later elected President to succeed Carranza. Before capitulation, Villa demanded and was granted by the Mexican government, one year's pay and a small farm for each of his men, a grant equal to \$2,000,000 gold.

One of the most notable escapades of Villa was his raid on Columbus, N. M., on March 6, 1916 in which he and his followers killed 17 Americans. It resulted in a punitive American military expedition under General Pershing, crossing the border and maintaining a "dead or alive" pursuit of Villa which lasted more than nine months and cost the United States government, according to a War Department estimate, nearly \$100,000,000.

In a battle at Ferral, American troops were ambushed by a number of their men killed. On March 21, however, the bandit's followers were defeated at Guerrero. The Americans were successful in a number of other skirmishes and penetrated so far south in Mexico as to meet the Constitutional troops of Carranza who, ostensibly, were also in pursuit of the renegade Mexican leader.

Villa, wounded but always eluding his pursuers, lived in the center of a perpendicular cliff which rose 150 feet from a brook on the level plain below and from this point Villa said he often watched the American troops. Many times he was reported perched upon the American army's withdrawal from Mexico Villa renewed his depredations. On April 14, 1918, he was indicted for first degree murder at Deming, N. M., on account of the Columbus raid.

"They call me a bandit and the worst man in Mexico," declared Villa when he was welcomed to San Pedro Coahuila, "but I would preserve our nationality. I surrendered because..." (Continued on Page Five)

## UNION IS A CONVENTION CITY TODAY

Neighbors of Woodcraft of Oregon are Gathered for Two Day Meet.

### BANQUET TOMORROW EVENING AT HOTEL

Installation of Officers at Open Meeting, Will Follow Banquet, at K. of P. Hall.

(Special to the Observer)  
**UNION, July 20.**—Union is again a convention city today. For the second time this summer a state wide organization is holding a conference here—this time the Neighbors of Woodcraft, a ladies' fraternal body, of Oregon being entertained by Union hospitality.

Delegates are present at the convention from Pentleton, La Grande, Baker, Burns, Condon, Bend and western Oregon, with many more expected to arrive hourly today and Saturday, the closing day of the meeting.

**Committees Reported.**  
Routine work and the reports of committees occupied the morning and this afternoon a juvenile program is arranged. Initiatory exercises and a balloting that may come up is scheduled for the evening program today. The meeting is of the "closed" type.

Tomorrow morning will again be devoted to business with many reports from committees and routine matters to be discussed. Another program, principally of an entertaining nature, has been scheduled for tomorrow afternoon.

**Banquet in Evening.**  
A banquet to be held at six o'clock Saturday evening in the K. of P. hall for the members of the organization and all visitors, will precede a public meeting, which will be held in the K. of P. hall at Union. Installation of officers and a program will feature the final meeting of the convention. Committees have been appointed among the Union people to make the visitors happy and the Union hotel will be the center post of the convention.

## 77 DAYS WITH ONLY ONE FIRE

The fire department of La Grande is in reality enjoying almost a vacation—at least the presence of fire is conspicuous mainly due to their absence.

The last real fire that the department has been called to extinguish was on June 18 when the annex to the old Presbyterian church, located now across the track, was burned. Previous to that call no serious fire occurred since May 5, when the Brown residence was burned. The last call and only call since June 18 came July 2 when an alarm was turned in from old town but when the fire department arrived, at the end of an exceedingly quick run, they found that the fire had been extinguished practically as soon as the alarm was turned in.

From May 5 to June 18 was a period of 43 days without any calls and from June 18 until today, July 20, 32 days, no fires have resulted. In a period of 77 days only one fire had to be extinguished by the local fire department.

**President Is Elected.**  
**PORTLAND, July 20.**—Dr. Aurelia H. Reinhardt, president of Mills College, Oakland, Cal., was today elected president of the American Association of University Women. The convention adopted a resolution asking President Harding to urge Congress to ratify the covenant of the league of nations on terms consistent with the constitutions.

## Gem State Baby Crop Record Smashed to Bits

**BOBBE, July 20.**—Breaking all previous records for births, Idaho registers reported a total of 1438 babies born in the state in the month ending July 19, according to the monthly report of the bureau of vital statistics issued Thursday.

Records for illegitimate children and twins were also broken. The report shows that there were 18 illegitimate children born in the reporting period. This is the largest number ever reported in one month. In all of last year there were 57 illegitimate children born, and for the first six months of 1923 the records show a total of 43 illegitimate babies.

Twenty-eight sets of twins are reported to have been born, the largest number ever recorded in any one month.

**Boys' Lead Slight.**  
Of the 1438 babies born, 743 were boys and 749 girls, the sex of five was not stated. All were white.

Parents of 1242 of the babies were born in the United States, while 146 of the youngsters had foreign-born parents.

The report also showed that there were 461 deaths in the same period for which the births were recorded. One of the persons who died was colored. All the rest were white.

Accidents claimed 27 victims. Ten were killed in automobile accidents, 10 met death by accidental drowning, and six were electrocuted by high tension wires. One was killed by lightning. Organic disease of the heart claimed 24 persons.

