

WATER SITUATION DISCUSSED

La Grande Schools Ready To Open

SEPTEMBER WILL START SCHOOL YEAR

Teaching Staff for High School and Grammar Schools Now Selected.

ENROLLMENT BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 4TH

Arrangements Made to Enroll High School Students During Four-Day Period.

All is now in readiness for the opening of schools in La Grande and throughout the county. In La Grande, Union, North Powder, and many other of the larger schools in Union county the opening date is September 10, although many of the smaller schools will begin functioning a week prior to that date.

Authorities here are expecting the greatest school year in La Grande history from an angle of enrollment and achievement.

High School Enrollment.

Enrollment in the high school will begin on Tuesday, September 4, and students may enroll from ten until twelve o'clock in the morning and from 1:30 until three o'clock in the afternoon on Tuesday and subsequent days during that week.

Seniors will enroll on Tuesday, in the offices of E. D. Towler, principal. Juniors will enroll Wednesday morning; Sophomores Wednesday afternoon; advanced Freshmen Thursday morning, and beginning Freshmen Thursday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock in room No. 5 in the high school building.

Students entering high school for the first time as freshmen should bring their eighth grade diplomas if they have graduated from the grammar school elsewhere than in La Grande.

Students entering from other high schools should ask the principal of that high school to forward at once a transcript of their credits for the principal of the La Grande high school to record.

WALLOWA MARKET DAMAGED BY FIRE; LOSS ABOUT \$2,000

WALLOWA, Ore.—Damage to the extent of \$2,000 resulted from a fire of unknown origin in the butcher shop owned by Gillespie & Claffetter, located in the center of the business section, about midnight Tuesday. The frame building was fully covered by insurance.

Several other frame buildings adjoining the meat market were saved only by the efficient work of the volunteer fire department, aided by the absence of any breeze.

SEEKS COMPROMISE IN COAL DISPUTE

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP)—Anthracite operators and miners today agreed that Union pumpmen, engineers and maintenance men be allowed to work in case of suspension in order to prevent the flooding and caving in of mines.

Both sides are today considering the propositions submitted to them last night by Governor Pin-

"Little Red Schoolhouse" On Catherine Creek Road Near Union Is Destroyed

Highway Commission Agrees to Aid Baker County; 50-50 Plan

PORTLAND, (AP)—The state highway commission Wednesday agreed to improve the Baker-Union highway on a 50-50 basis if Baker county agrees to the plan, to meet the county's share of \$241,000 expense. The county now has \$100,000 available.

ITALIAN-GREEK CLASH LOOMING

Italy Demands Drastic Reparation for Killing of Italian Mission Members; Greeks Not Disposed to Submit.

PARIS, (AP)—Greece formally presented condolences over the death of the Italian commissioners to the council of ambassadors today.

ATHENS, (AP)—It is understood here that Greece is not disposed to accept humiliating conditions imposed by Italy in a note demanding satisfaction for killing five Italian members of the Greek-Albanian frontier demarcation mission. Greece will propose to submit the question to the league of nations.

Greece is disposed to express sorrow over the massacre and indemnify families of Italian officials murdered on Greek territory but Italy's demands included a 50,000,000 lire indemnity, a salute to the Italian fleet by the Greeks and punishment of the assassins.

PARIS, (AP)—Interallied council of ambassadors today decided to telegraph a protest to Greece in behalf of the Italian mission, asking Greece to instruct that an immediate investigation be made.

The secretaries of the council took today's action during the absence of the ambassadors who are expected to return tomorrow for a meeting. It is expected in some quarters that the council of the league of nations now meeting in Geneva, may take action. Hope has been expressed that Italy suspend drastic demands until the inquiry is made.

Baseball Results. (By Associated Press.) Results in the American League today follows: Philadelphia 1, Boston 2; in the National League: Boston 2, Philadelphia 1, St. Louis 6, Pittsburgh 4.

SHANGHAI, (AP)—Rev. W. A. Whittle and Rev. F. A. Watt, British missionaries, were killed by bandits August 14 in the Szechwan Province, according to news made public today.

Weather Forecast

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—Generally fair tonight and Friday. Cooler tonight in the east portion.

Fire Sweeps Every Vestige of Building Away; Neighboring Wheat Field Saved by Heroic Work; Loss About \$2,500.

UNION, (Special)—Where yesterday stood the "little red schoolhouse" on the Catherine Creek road about three and one-half miles east of Union, today is a smoldering bed of ashes, mute testimony of a fire that swept the building completely destroyed the building and threatened surrounding wheat fields for nearly an hour, during which time residents of the district frantically battled the flames and finally won in a fight to save their crops, even though the schoolhouse was given up.

Theories are all that the Catherine Creek district residents have regarding the origin of the fire. Everything was quiet near the building last evening but at about three o'clock this morning Mr. and Mrs. Ed Miles, living a few miles further up Catherine Creek, noticed a reflection in the sky that indicated a large fire somewhere below and telephoned to the people in the surrounding country, arousing them to the danger.

Fire Unconquerable. But by the time the aroused countryside had reached the site of the fire, all chance to save the schoolhouse had passed and all that remained (Continued on Page Five.)

S.P. To Spend \$90,000,000.00

SAN FRANCISCO, (AP)—The Southern Pacific will engage in a construction and expansion program in the west involving the expenditure of \$90,000,000 the company announced today. Fifty million dollars will be spent for improvements and \$40,000,000 for increased facilities.

The outstanding features include the Natron cutoff, a new entrance to Portland, double tracking of portions of the line between San Francisco and Ogden and other improvements in the Sierra Nevada mountains costing \$2,000,000, double tracking of portions of the route between San Francisco and Los Angeles, and \$4,500,000 terminal at Portland.

DR. PHY GIVES LIGHT ON THE WATER HERE

Eastern Oregon's Member of State Board of Health Urges Pure Water.

The state board of health of which Dr. W. T. Phy of Hot Lake is the Eastern Oregon member has lately taken up the subject of pure water for municipalities in Oregon up for investigation and their findings are of exceptional interest to the people of La Grande.

Doubtless in view of the question of a water supply at the least cost to the taxpayers which is a burning issue in this city, the state board of health through Dr. Phy will be able to give this city some advice of great value.

In discussing the water problem with a reporter for the Evening Observer today at Hot Lake Dr. Phy said: "I have been very much interested in the discussion of the water supply for La Grande, and wish to suggest a solution of the matter that may be of interest to the officials and the people (Continued on Page Four.)

Finish of Bathing Girl Race Will Be On Friday Evening

Tomorrow's issue of the Evening Observer will carry the last announced standing of the two competitors, Miss Ione Zabel and Miss Effie Almsworth, in the La Grande bathing girl contest, made public prior to the announcement of final results at the Legion dance to be held in the Zabel Hall tomorrow night. The contest comes to a close at six o'clock tomorrow evening at which time all votes must be turned in. Yesterday, Miss Almsworth had 10,000 votes and Miss Zabel 9,999.

The dance at the Zabel Hall tomorrow evening will begin at nine o'clock and dancing will continue until midnight, with the exception of an intermission during which time the winner of the contest will be announced and the prizes given the competitors according to their finish in the race. The Legion orchestra will play for the dance and the Legion drum corps will also "beat in" during the evening.

CHAMBER TRIP WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL IN ITS PURPOSE

GOVERNOR BROKE TO ASK AID OF CREDITORS

INDIANAPOLIS, (AP)—Governor Warren T. McCray today called a meeting of his creditors Friday. It is understood that he will ask his creditors to enter an agreement whereby he can retrieve his fortunes.

Lowering of farm land prices and the cattle market is said to have caused his financial embarrassment. He would place his assets in the hands of trustees.

BAND FUND IS COMING SLOWLY

No Personal Donations Are Made During Past 24 Hours; Total Is Now \$394

Although a total of \$20.50 was pledged to the La Grande Band appreciation fund yesterday, the total was swelled by five dollars today. Not a personal donation came in today, which is regrettable, as the personal donations have not been as many as was expected when the fund was inaugurated. The business concerns responded very well on the whole but only about a score of private citizens gave to the fund—many hundreds of scores of private citizens are living in La Grande and away the centers given by the bands take a just pride in the band, but fail to support the band.

The total of the fund today at one o'clock is \$394.00, still over two hundred dollars short of the \$600 needed.

Personal donations received for the band appreciation fund prior to one o'clock today are as follows: August J. Stange \$10; LeRoy Morgan \$5; Charles Harris \$1; Mrs. Metzler \$1; John Neiderer \$2; Floyd McKennon \$5; Miss Newlin \$1; E. Marks \$5; P. E. Diven \$1; Rube Zweifel \$1.50; Bob Barrie \$1; H. Knapp \$1; Nolan Skiff, Jr. \$2; J. E. Stearns \$1; Orsen Brandt \$1; B. A. Benham \$2; W. S. Murkers \$1; Herman Roscoe \$5; R. Huron \$5; Dr. Harry Benvy \$5; Fred Scholke \$1; J. G. Stoenigra \$5; Reverend William Crosby Ross (Continued on Page Five.)

Relationship Between La Grande Business Men and Wallowa County Commercial Circles Is Augmented.

Completing a two day excursion during which time thirty-five members of La Grande's Chamber of Commerce visited Tualum, Elgin, Milwaukie, Wallowa, Lostine, Enterprise, Joseph and the Wallowa Lake resorts, the caravan returned home late last night each member frankly stating that he had one of the best times of his life and that his vision had been broadened to a realization of possible development that is truly astounding.

Tuesday at Elgin a fine lunch was served to the party and the business men of that city by ladies of the Presbyterian church. H. H. Hug, grocer of Elgin, acted as toastmaster, and many talks were given reviewing the friendship that has long existed between La Grande and that city.

At Tualum, while no luncheon or dinner was served due to the time party visited in that town, the business people nevertheless made the hour a pleasant one for the guests. At Milwaukie the entire party stopped for another visit with Charlie Conkey, an old La Grande citizen who is operating the Milwaukie Lumber company. His mill was running like a clock and the logs which had been floated down the Milwaukie in the spring were fast being turned into commercial lumber.

No stop was made at Wallowa on the trip going to and the La Grande delegation drove to Enterprise where they spent the evening with business people of that city and enjoyed a very fine dinner prepared and served by ladies of the Christian church.

Warm Reception. Ben Weathers, who has been postmaster of Enterprise since time immemorial, presided at the dinner and his warm personal acquaintance with all members of the La Grande party gave him a free hand to mention their shortcomings and have a lot of fun. George W. Hyatt, delivered the address of welcome and J. H. Penz responded for La Grande. Arthur Miller delivered a resplendent baseball talk in which he took in the early characters of La Grande, Pendleton, Baker and Wallowa. Talks were delivered by Jay Dabbin, Ed. Condit, Earl Reynolds and Bruce Dennis, and the bond of comradery purpose was tightened between Enterprise and La Grande.

The Chamber of Commerce quartet, composed of George S. Blinn, C. E. Dutton, Elmer Stoddard and Sherwood Williams, won the hearts of Enterprise people just as they had a few hours previous captured Elgin folk with their excellent numbers.

Visited Wallowa Lake. Following the banquet the delegation (Continued on Page Five.)

COMMISSION MAKES READY FOR ACTION

Promises Citizens to Drill for Water as Soon as Funds Can Be Secured

GEOLOGIST ON WAY TO LA GRANDE NOW

Topography to Be Studied; Report Made; Then Matter Will Be Put to People in November.

With about two score citizens of La Grande present last evening at the city commission meeting in the city hall ready to discuss pro and con the water situation here with the city executives, the commissioners rushed through their routing work last evening and a few minutes after the meeting was called to order, were ready to permit what proved to be a round-table discussion to open.

Several citizens present gave their opinions on the matter, the consensus of opinion being that some step should be taken immediately to remedy the water situation—that the commission should put the matter to the "vote of the people" at the earliest possible moment.

Commission Agreeable. In reply to this, Dr. R. H. Brown, president of the commission for four years during whose term William A. Jones, stated that the commission would at the earliest possible moment present their findings on the water situation to the people. The commission believed that it is good business to take a chance on digging a well to augment the supply of drinking water before going further into surface and irrigation schemes and the citizens present last evening appeared to be of the same mind. A geologist from the University of Oregon is expected here daily to study the topography of this district and present his findings to the commission, after which (Continued on Page Four.)

DEATH SUMMONS GREEK PRINCESS LATE WEDNESDAY

LONDON, (AP)—Princess Anastasia, wife of Prince Christopher of Greece and formerly Mrs. William R. Leeds, widow of the American tinplate magnate, died in her London home Wednesday night. She passed peacefully away at 11:55, without regaining consciousness. Princess Anastasia and the citizens present last evening appeared to be of the same mind. A geologist from the University of Oregon is expected here daily to study the topography of this district and present his findings to the commission, after which (Continued on Page Four.)

The immediate cause of death was cancer, complicated by cirrhosis of the liver. It is thought likely that the body will be sent to the United States immediately for burial in the family mausoleum at Woodlawn cemetery, New York, where her father and mother rest, although some of the relatives Wednesday night expressed the hope that interment might be in the Greek royal cemetery at Thessalonica, near Athens, where the late King Alexander is interred.

WATER SITUATION EXPLAINED

(By F. B. HAYES, CITY MANAGER)

The present water supply of the city of La Grande comes from what is known as Upper Beaver creek, located a distance of some fifteen and one-half miles from the city. Water is held in the Beaver creek channel by a circular concrete dam, and the supply is therefore known as stored water. At approximately a quarter of a mile below the Beaver creek dam is situated our present intake, which consists of a small intake dam across Beaver creek which diverts the water into a 14-inch wood stave pipe, but within a few feet the 14-inch pipe is reduced to 12 inches, and from there the water is conveyed through a 12-inch pipe to the high point, which is what is known as Little Whiskey creek. From Little Whiskey creek to Sheep creek the line is 10-inch pipe, and from Sheep creek the water is conveyed to the city reservoir through an 8-inch, riveted steel pipe.

We find that in a great many places the pipe is in very bad condition, the wooden staves being badly decayed, and at a point that is known as Little Rock creek and Grave creek, where we have the highest pressure, the riveted steel pipe is in very bad condition caused from pitting on the outside. Just recently we repaired a portion of the line but before we had hardly reached town after making the repairs we found that the line had again broken at an entirely different point than that where repairs were made. It is necessary to relay much of the pipe located at Little Rock creek and Grave creek as an examination shows that the riveted steel pipe is unfit for future use.

We repaired the reservoir early in the spring with the result that we have the reservoir in first class shape at a minimum expense. The distributing system is principally laid of wood pipe, with some steel and a very little cast iron pipe. Examination of the reports made by the city manager will reveal the fact that there are from five to ten leaks in the distributing system every seven days. This is a startling disclosure and aside from the time and labor spent in their repair, the economic waste of the water will amount to considerable in a year's time. It is therefore my opinion that in the very near future the city of La Grande will be forced to bond to replace the wooden mains now in service and which are decayed.

During the periods of extreme low water in this reservoir, we are forced to pump from the river. The water is taken from a point a few hundred feet from the pumping station and is pumped directly into the water mains, but is chlorinated in so doing. While the water is objectionable for domestic use, it is nevertheless made chemically pure by chlorination. The city of La Grande therefore faces a very serious water problem. To bring water in from the outside would cost a great deal of money, and to build a filtration system, while the cost would be lighter, yet the operation would be high, and to drill wells for water is a gamble pure and simple. It is not difficult to bore a well and strike water in quantities sufficient for a few hundred people, but to get a supply sufficient for the entire city of say three and a half million gallons per day would require a number of wells yielding a very huge supply of water, which I am afraid we shall not be able to get. The problem therefore lengthens itself and before it is solved will require considerable and very serious study, and it should be looked at and studied from all angles so that the people's needs may be met and the least expenditure of cash may prevail.

Fire Fighters Shift To Clatskanie Forest

PORTLAND, (AP)—Fire fighters left at Clatskanie about midnight to come back here from the Clatskanie River in the Clark-Wilson lumber company holdings. A fire in the slabbings of the American company near Vernonia again broke out late yesterday. Fire is reported to have swept 120 acres in the Columbia national forest eight miles east of Mount Adams.

LABOR DAY BOXING CARD TO BE SNAPPY

Labor Day in La Grande will be comparatively quiet, when compared with Labor Day of past years when celebrations were staged here. The day will be observed here as a local holiday with the business section closing but with evening boxing out of the ordinary in arranged.

A boxing card, to be staged in the town hall, and which will transform the evening into one representative of Labor Day in that it will be turned over almost completely to entertainment. Batic versus Taylor. According to Ed Ford, member of the La Grande boxing commission and promoter of boxing cards here, the boxing card in the evening, which will open the fight season in La Grande for 1923-24, will be a home-

White, two local boys, meeting in the semi-final, Earl Ford and Danny Dana will mix things up in a four round preliminary preceding the semi-final and a battle royal, open to five or six young leather-pushers, will raise the curtain on the main event. Taylor has met fighters of high class, among them being Abe Minkind, Frankie Barrow, Pete Mische and Murr Brownson. On the other hand Barrie has an equally good record, having fought Albo Nelson, Bob Mitchell, Eddie Shannon and others who are rated high in coast states. Barrie in constant training for the past two weeks, promises to be in the best condition since he began fighting here, and reports from Taylor's manager say that his fighter will be at the tip of perfection, ready to extend himself to the utmost to win. Charles Hartman has been engaged to referee the main events on the card. Tickets may be obtained at either the Imperial Billiard Parlor or at the Home-Plate.

