

CITY
EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

The Weather
Portland (AP)—Rain in the
west, rain or snow in the
east portion tonight and
Tuesday. Warner tonight
in Eastern Oregon.

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TEN OF SHIP'S CREW LOST ON REEF

REBELS 60
MILES FROM
MEXICO CITYPuebla and Cuantla Re-
ported Captured by
Insurgent ForcesOBREGON SAID
LEADING ARMYPresident of Mexico In-
spects Troops and Puts
Self Personally in Com-
mand in East.VERA CRUZ (AP)—With the
reported capture of Puebla and
Cuantla, Mexican revolutionary
headquarters today claimed they
held two lower points of a triangle
which has Mexico City as their
goal at the apex.
Cuantla, taken yesterday, ac-
cording to the insurgent commu-
nication, is within 60 miles of the capital.Undated (By the Associated
Press)—President Obregon has
finished his task of inspecting the
government forces operating
against the rebels to the west of
Mexico City and has gone to the
under General Guadalupe Sanchez
are trying to push through from
their original base at Vera Cruz to
the capital.
Information from Mexican gov-
ernment sources is to the effect
that President Obregon personally
is directing an attack from Apiza-
cot to open the town of Puebla which
was evacuated by the federal
troops Saturday night.
The expectation in government
circles is that a big battle is im-
minent between the government
troops and the rebels east of the
capital.It is reported that discord has
arisen in the ranks of the rebels
and that there is a plot on foot
among some of the leaders to elim-
inate Adolfo de la Huerta as their
chief.OVER A SCORE
OF LIVES LOSTTwenty-Two Believed to
Be Lost in Wreck of
Steamer Off Virginia
Coast.NEW YORK, N. Y. (AP)—The loss
of life in the sinking Saturday
of the Norwegian steamer Runa
which went down off Fishing Pier
sheds was placed Sunday by coast
guard officials at 22 men, after
word from the cutter Montez that
a lifeboat had been found with
all its occupants dead.
Of the two lifeboats, officials said
were launched. One of these was
picked up with its four survivors
by the American tanker W. W.
Mills, which also rescued a fifth
man from the water. These men
now are believed to have been
one of the crew of a crew of 27.The Montez which was rushed to
the scene upon advice that the
ship had gone down in the gale
was still searching the vicinity
Sunday.Two Aviators Are Killed
SANTA MONICA, Cal. (AP)—
William D. Fowler, 26, and Har-
vey Lightfoot, 28, are reserve lieutenants
and aviators, respectively,
were killed at Cloverfield here
Sunday when the plane in which
they were making a practice flight
crashed to earth from an altitude
of 100 feet.Tuberculosis Death
Rate Is DecreasingWASHINGTON (AP)—The bat-
tle against tuberculosis is being
won gradually.
Census bureau statistics made
public Sunday show the number
of deaths per 100,000 population
in the registration area of the
country, comprising 45 per cent of
the total population, declined
from 150 in 1918 to 97.4 last year.
There has been a decrease in the
death rate every year since 1913,
but the decline showed in 1921
was 14.5; in 1922 it was 14.5;
in 1923 the decrease was only 2.4.
There were 89,452 deaths from
tuberculosis in the registrationHigh School
1923 Mimir
Wins HonorPublication Held Third
Best in United States
in Its Class.The La Grande high school Mimir,
published last spring and which
was presented to the public in May
of this year, has achieved especial
distinction by winning third place
in a national contest for excellence
conducted by the Central Inter-
scholastic Press Association, ac-
cording to Principal E. D. Towler,
who received word of the award
over the week-end.
The award was made at the an-
nual convention of the association
held at the University of Wisconsin
this month. The conference
was of a national character and
delegates were present from prac-
tically every section of the coun-
try.Ranked Third.
The L. H. S. Mimir of 1923, en-
tered by Miss Mabel Bennett, in
the national contest, was judged
among other high school organs
edited in cities corresponding to
La Grande and emerged from the
judgment with the honor of being
third best of those entered from
all over the United States."We feel that this is an honor
that is worthy of much consid-
eration," authorities of the local
schools commented today. "The
Mimir was published and edited
by pupils of the La Grande high
school and was purely a high
school product."
The award again goes to
prove that a school in the La
Grande high school ranks high in
the northwest—in the entire United
States. Considering past
awards during the year won by local
high school pupils, one more
than ever realizes the height of
excellence attained by the local
educational institution. In the
American Legion statewide essay
contest La Grande high school pupils
won first, second and third
prizes in debate early this year.
In the La Grande affirmative and
negative teams both won two to one
from Pendleton, having one of the
best forensic teams in the state;
and in last year's contest the
same high quality of competition
was entered from this school. L.
H. S. won first and third in the
American Legion statewide essay
contest and was first in the state-
wide essay contest conducted by
the Sons and Daughters of the Rev-
olution.London University
Professor To Talk
To Oregon TeachersBEND, Ore. (Special)—Supt. G.
W. Ager of Bend, president of the
Oregon State Teachers' Association,
announces that one of the
speakers for the annual meeting in
Portland, December 27-29, will be
Dr. John Adams of London University,
London, England. Dr.
Adams is now on a lecture tour
of New Zealand, Australia and
South America and for this reason
the Oregon association has been
fortunate enough to secure him. He
has written several books, all well
known to Oregon educators, particularly
"Exposition and Illustration
in Teaching."TOMPKINS IS
HELD INSANEMan Who Confessed to
Strangling Wife, Is
Mentally Deranged.MILWAUKEE (By the Associated
Press)—A. Ray Tompkins, held
here on a charge of first de-
gree murder, is insane, the ju-
dicial commission reported today.
Tompkins confessed to strangling
his wife and then removing
her head which he destroyed in a
burning fire.F. BUCHANAN
IS HEAD OF
INSTITUTECounty Teachers Meet
and Elect Officers
Here SaturdayJ. A. CHURCHILL
ADDRESSES BODYAttendance Reported as
Being Good; Commit-
tee to Attend State
Meeting.P. G. Buchanan, of the North
Powder schools, was elected pres-
ident of the county teachers' in-
stitute for the ensuing year Sat-
urday afternoon at the meeting
held in the La Grande high school
building. Paul Elliot, also of North
Powder, was named secretary and
treasurer.The institute went into session
society at nine o'clock Saturday
morning and continued through-
out the day. The attendance was
very good, teachers, principals and
superintendents from every city in
the county being present. Approx-
imately 125 persons attended.
J. A. Churchill, superintendent
of Oregon schools, of Salem, and
E. E. Carleton, of the second dis-
trict, of the University of
Oregon were present and spoke to
the institute. Mr. Churchill used
as his topics "The Measure of the
Teacher's Efficiency" and "The
Course of Study." Mr. Carleton
spoke of "Intelligence Tests" and
"New Books."
Other speakers were: Principal
E. D. Towler, La Grande, on "Im-
migration as an Educational Ques-
tion;" Mrs. Stella Ingle on "Class
Demonstration, Phonics and Pri-
mary Reading;" and Superintendent
A. C. Hampton, of La Grande,
discussed the Oregon State Teach-
ers' Association.Delegates to the Oregon State
Teachers' association were elected
at the meeting. They were Super-
intendent Hampton principal Towler,
E. G. Bailey, Elgin, Roy Can-
field, Union, Mrs. Myrtle Mullon,
North Powder and County Super-
intendent Mrs. A. E. Ivahoe, an
ex-service delegate.
At noon a cafeteria luncheon
was prepared and served by the
domestic science class of the local
high school. This high school
chorus also sang during the day.CITY BLOCK IS
RAZED BY FIRECHARLOTTE, N. C.—Fire that
appeared to spread with almost
creditable rapidity engulfed the
East Trade street retail district at
8:29 o'clock Sunday night. Three
stores were on fire at that time
and indications were that others
soon would be burning.At 9:29 o'clock indications were
that the entire block facing North
College street and that facing East
Trade street would be destroyed.
No estimate of the damage could
be obtained.
At least one man, a negro whose
name could not be learned, was in-
jured in the blaze. The negro fall-
ed to feed a warning to leave the
warehouse of the South Atlantic
worth company on North College
street and was struck by a falling
wall. There were reports that a
number of other persons had been
injured or killed by falling walls
but these could not be verified.PHILIP E. FOX
HELD INSANE BY
DR. R. C. SWINTATLANTA, Ga. (By the Associated
Press)—Philip E. Fox, for-
merly of the Kins Kins office, was de-
clared insane by Dr. R. C. Swint,
an expert alienist, in testifying for
the defense during the trial of Fox
here on the charge of murdering
William S. Coburn, an attorney.
Dr. Swint testified the type of
insanity with which the defendant
was suffering he regarded as ex-
tremely dangerous, defining it as
"paranoia."Two Decades
Of Aviation
CelebratedTwenty Years Ago Today
Wright Brothers Made
First Flight.DAYTON, Ohio (By the Associated
Press)—Twenty years ago today
Wilbur and Orville Wright,
pioneers of American aviation,
made their first successful flight
in a mechanically driven airplane.
Today that special flight, made
at Kitty Hawk, N. C., and of only
29 seconds duration, was recalled
to Orville, surviving brother, as
probably the most important event
in the history of aeronautics.
Dayton, Ohio, Wright's home, is
now one of the greatest flying
centers of the world, and other
cities all over the country were
to hold meetings under the direc-
tion of the National Aeronautic
association at which the brothers'
accomplishments are to be lauded
by leaders of the aerial world.FOOD NEEDED
BY GERMANYGermans Ask Reparation
Commission to Release
Priority Claim; Dis-
cuss Occupation.PARIS (By the Associated
Press)—Germany's request that
the reparation commission agree
to release its priority claim on Ger-
many's resources to an extent nec-
essary to permit Germany to bor-
row money abroad with which to
buy needed food was delivered Sat-
urday to the reparation commission
by the German War Burdens com-
mission.
The French and German govern-
ments are to discuss the question
of the Ruhr and Rhineland occu-
pations. Poincare in a statement
accepted with limitations the oc-
cupation of Herr Von Hoeseh
charge d'affaires, regarding con-
versations which Germany wishes to
conduct with France and Belgium
on matters connected with the oc-
cupation.

BULLETINS

Cattle Higher.
PORTLAND (AP)—Cattle was
higher on today's market, going
from 15 to 25 cents higher. Good
steers are listed at \$7 to \$8.
Hogs are mostly one dime lower,
medium to choice quoted at \$7 to
\$7.50.
Sheep are steady, eggs unsettled
and butter firm.Identity Unknown.
PORTLAND (AP)—The sher-
iff's deputies today visited a num-
ber of camps along the upper Col-
umbia highway in an effort to
identify the body found with a
bullet through its head 20 feet
from the highway near Warren-
dale yesterday. Two sets of num-
bers printed in ink within the vest
are the only identification mark-
ers found on the body. On the left
side was inscribed "C. QUINN" and
on the right side were the num-
bers "5661." A .32 caliber bul-
let, which had penetrated the skull
was found in the cap.TRAPPER FINED
\$25 AND COSTSElmer Potter, accused of trap-
ping without a license, was found
guilty this morning in justice
court and was fined \$25 and
costs by Justice of the Peace
Hugh E. Brady.
Ernest Grayson was fined \$10
and costs for violation of rulings
of the Oregon public service com-
mission in the same court.FRENCH BOYS IN FACTORIES
GIVEN INDUSTRIAL COURSESPARIS (AP)—The death of
skilled workmen in France is
causing a revival of the appren-
tice system in the form of train-
ing schools in factories. One of
the most advanced of these is in
a Paris automobile factory, where
some of employees are given a two-
year course of lectures, demon-
strations and experimental work,
and finished off with a year in the
shop doing a man's work.
The boys get alternative lessons
in theory and practice, and are
given a week or two at a time at
some machine with the regular
skilled operator. When they gradu-
ate they have had a rounded out
experience which enables them to
acquire their future work with ab-
solute ease.
Shawmut authority the theatre
of Paris have established training
courses for apprentices in several
of the best equipped houses.Miss Florence Flower (above) claims the Woman's
World Champion Pocket Billiard title. She will soon
play the best men players in New York state, it is
reported. Maurice Daly, also of New York, says the
girl is a "wiz" with the cue. Day is a noted pocket
billiardist.Insurgents Hope to
Break Senate TangleWeather Warm
In Past WeekMaximum 52 Above the
Freezing Point; Mini-
mum 18 Above; No
rain or Snow.Very rarely, at this time of the
year, does the Grande Ronde val-
ley enjoy an Indian Summer, even
for a few days. But such was the
case over the week end and the
few days preceding this period
were not marked with rigorous
weather of any kind. The weather,
Friday Saturday and Sunday, was
warm and clear with the sun shin-
ing the greater portion of the
time. During these three days the
mercury fell below freezing point
only Friday evening. The maxi-
mum mark was reached yesterday
day when the thermometer reached
52 degrees above and the mini-
mum was Friday when it fell to
18 degrees below freezing point
—29 degrees above zero.During the past week no snow
or rain fell in La Grande and on
the whole, although many Irish
gaels were gathered, the weather
was exceptional.According to the accredited
thermometer at the La Grande de-
partment, the lowest tempera-
ture last week (from December 13
to 17) was Thursday when the
mercury dropped to 18 degrees
above freezing point.
The maximum and minimum
marks during the past week fol-
lowed: December 18, 29 and 21
above; December 19, 23 and 19
above; December 20, 24 and 18
above; December 21, 42 and 29
above; December 22, 49 and 24
above; December 23, 52 and 25
above.MEN ENTOMBED
IN COAL MINETOKIO (By the Associated
Press)—Thirty miners were en-
tombled in a coal mine at Iwano,
in the Fukuoka prefecture of
southeastern Japan, today.
They are held prisoners by gas
in the workings.
The collapse of a portion of the
mine entombed the men.La Grande Is
Preparing to
Observe DayHoliday Decorations Are
Blossoming Forth in
Full Glory.The city of La Grande is rapidly
taking on an aspect of the Yule-
tide season. In the business sec-
tion and in the residential sec-
tions, fir trees, carefully cut and
symmetrically arranged, are begin-
ning to blossom forth, or have al-
ready done so, in Christmas trim-
mings.
About all that is lacking today,
one week before Christmas Eve is
a white blanket on the ground and
with the weather slightly colder
today, it is possible that a few
more days may see such a cover-
ing.Many Xmas Trees
Sunday seemed to be a veritable
day for gathering in the Christ-
mas trees. Tired business men,
dads whose pocket books are al-
ready showing signs of the Yule-
tide spirit, and heads of families
were all out yesterday and when
the work of cutting, selecting and
trimming was finished, returned
to their homes with fir trees for
(Continued on page 5)MELLON GIVES
TAX PROGRAMSecretary of the Treas-
ury Forwards Propo-
sals to Congress.WASHINGTON, D. C. (AP)—
Secretary Mellon has reduced to
definite form his tax reduction pro-
posals and forwarded a complete
draft of the revenue act to the
house ways and means committee
for use in consideration of tax re-
vision legislation to be begun Tues-
day.
The treasury secretary in a let-
ter accompanying the redrafted
(Continued on Page Six)WEST COAST BANK
OPENED SATURDAYPORTLAND — An outstanding
event in the business record of this
city for 1923 was the opening of
the West Coast National Bank Sat-
urday. Portland now has, with
the organization of the new com-
pany completed, seven banks op-
erating under national charter.
This increases the paid up capital
of the 13 banks of the city to \$22-
784,900.The new bank is a member of
the federal reserve system and
will conform to the rules of the
Portland Clearing House association.
Officers are Edgar H. Smith, pre-
sident; John Edlefsen, vice-
president; Godfrey C. Blohm, cash-
ier; Charles R. Harding, formerly
of La Grande, Oregon, assistant
cashier; W. O. Munsell, Thomas
E. Johnson, Frank S. Hallie, H. S.
Tuttle and H. T. Nicolai, direct-
ors.

Late News Flashes

Bandits Were Harbored.

EUGENE (AP)—Three bandits, who robbed the
Lane County State & Savings bank at Florence last
Tuesday, were harbored several days last week on the
farms of two men near Mercer Lake, according to re-
ports received today.The posse was within ten feet of the men at one
time, according to the report.One of the robbers was in the cellar when the
searchers were in the house.The bandit leader was identified as Tom Murray,
who was said to have made numerous trips to Florence.
The bandits planned to catch the Sunday morning train
out of Florence, officers learned. They changed their
rough garb for finer clothing, shaved and improved
their appearance in general. The train was thoroughly
searched yesterday but no trace of the men was found.

Boosting Hiram Johnson.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Papers to place Senator
Hiram Johnson's name before the South Dakota Re-
publicans as a candidate for the presidential nomina-
tion are to be filed today in the senator's behalf with
the South Dakota secretary of state at Pierre. The
power of attorney had been forwarded to Pierre by
Senator Johnson, together with his formal application,
for a place on the primary ballot. The California sena-
tor believed that injunctive proceedings, which have
been begun to keep minority nominations off the bal-
let will not interfere with the filing of his paper."C.A. SMITH"
IS WRECKED
AT COOS BAYFourteen of Crew of 24
Rescued by Life Sav-
ing CrewsLUMBER BOAT IS
A TOTAL LOSSTen Members of Crew
Drown When Lifeboat
Upsets; Disaster Seen
From Shore.MARSHFIELD (AP)—Seven
men who clung last night to the
wrecked steamer schooner, C. A.
Smith, which yesterday piled upon
the North Jetty inside Coos Bay,
put off in one of the ship's boats
early today and were picked up by
life savers in the tug Oregon.The men got away from the
wreck while a life saving crew, in
a steam schooner, the Cleone, were
preparing to shoot a line aboard the
wreck.
Seven men were rescued yester-
day by the life saving crew. Ten
were lost yesterday during
an attempt to leave the wrecked
schooner in a life boat. The Smith
carried a crew of 24 men.MARSHFIELD (AP).—Ten
men who were lost as the re-
sult of the wreck of the C. A.

(Continued on page 2)

FINE NUMBERS
TO BE GIVENTonight's Concert an Ex-
traordinary Event —
Band to Render Selec-
tions.An exceptionally large attend-
ance is anticipated this evening at
the Benefit Concert in the L. D. S.
tabernacle when Mrs. A. I. Helli-
ardson, Mrs. Cornelia Barker-
Carson, Mrs. W. W. Berry and the
La Grande Municipal band, An-
(Continued on page 5)Borah, of Idaho, Is
Not in 1924 CampaignWASHINGTON (AP)—Senator
Borah of Idaho "is not a candi-
date for the presidential nomina-
tion of any party," he said Sun-
day in discussing a prediction of
Frank E. Johnson at Boise, Idaho,
Saturday night that he would
soon announce for president on
the Progressive ticket.