

CITY
EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

The Weather

Portland, (AP) — Snow
tonight. Fair and colder
Tuesday.

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TWO DIE IN DENVER FIRES

OBREGON TO
BE GIVEN U.
S. ARMS SOONWar Material Will Be
Forwarded to Mexi-
can GovernmentKEEP TRANSFER
DETAILS SECRETMexico Claims That Re-
volt Is Broken; Rebels
Declare That They Are
Not Yet Lost.WASHINGTON, (AP) — The La
Grande faction in Mexico today
fired with the state department a
formal protest against the United
States' plan to sell war material to
the Obregon government.WASHINGTON, (AP) — Details
of the contemplated sale of sur-
plus army war materials to the
Mexican government occupied war
department officials Sunday and it
was indicated that orders to de-
posit the material from which the rifles
and other equipment are to be
taken will go forward within a day
or two.Final decision to grant the re-
quest of the Obregon government
and make the sale direct by the
Washington government was not
reached until Saturday, although
the request is understood to have
been before administration officials
practically all of last week. Al-
though there has been no indica-
tion that the proposal was the sub-
ject of extended discussion at the
cabinet meetings on last Tuesday
and Friday, it is unlikely that
President Coolidge reached the de-
cision to depart from the policy of
the Harding administration in re-
lation to the sale of surplus arms
without having the matter before
him.

Transfer to Be Kept Secret.

Presumably no publicity will be
given by the Washington govern-

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VESPER DRAWS
LARGE CROWDOne of the pleasing services of
the closing year was the cantata
entitled "The Light Eternal" given
on the vesper at the First Metho-
dist church last evening. Antici-
pating the value and pleasure of
the occasion a large audience
gathered the choir and the pastor
as they assembled on the pulpit
and the choir platform for the ser-
vice.With Dr. Keith, Methodist pas-
tor, on the pulpit was the Rev. A.
H. Sutton, of the Baptist church,
who read the scriptures, and the
Rev. H. K. Wallis, of the Com-
munity Church in Island City, who
led the audience in the evening
prayer.The pastor spoke briefly of the
"Crowning of the Year." He stressed
the fact that if there were any
defects in the past year it was not
God's fault and urged an entering
into the new year with courage
and faith and zeal and enthu-
siasm.The cantata was a series of chor-
us, quartettes, duets and solos
all rendered in an efficient and
pleasing manner. Mrs. A. H. Kin-
man was at the organ and Mrs.
Sherwood Williams was director
of the augmented choir.Alumni Beat Hi Team
In Over-Time PeriodIn a fast, snappy game the alum-
ni basketball team defeated the
La Grande high school quintet
27 to 26 Saturday afternoon in the
last few seconds of an overtime
period. The game proper ended a
tie, both teams having scored 20
markers.The alumni held the lead at the
end of the first half having a
total of 20 points to the high school's
9. In the last half the Tigers
clearly outplayed their opponents,
marking up 21 points to the alum-
ni's 10. But in the over-time pe-
riod, the old grads came back with
a rally and succeeded in keeping
things even and shooting a foul in
the last few seconds that broke

FANCY

Miss Beatrice Loughran of New
York will go abroad with the Olympic
Skating Team to participate in
France. She will represent the U.
S. in figure skating.TEXAS SOLON
SCORES BILLRepresentative Garner
Charges "High Con-
spiracy" Regarding the
Treasury Tax Bill.WASHINGTON, (By the Associ-
ated Press)—The publication of
the treasury tax bill, says a state-
ment by Representative Garner, of
Texas, "has fully justified the atti-
tude of the Democratic and West-
ern congressional leaders in refus-
ing to accept the measure in ad-
vance and without an opportunity
to scrutinize its provisions."
A "huge conspiracy," well organ-
ized, on the part of predatory in-
terests, Garner charged, "has been
conducting a nation wide propa-
ganda to commit people and their
representatives to congress," to the
bill before all its details could be
made known.50 MILLION MARKS ON
LETTER FROM GERMANYREYER, O. (I.N.S.)—Stamps
representing 50,000,000 marks were
affixed to a letter recently receiv-
ed by a local resident from rela-
tives in Germany. Another citizen
here received, from a relative in
Germany, one of the new good
standard ten-pennie notes—one-
tenth of a mark—on which is
printed the statement that it is
equal to 2.25 cents of an American
dollar, indicating that the new
gold standard money in Germany
is valued the same as the pre-war
mark, which was 21 1/2 cents.

Street Fruit Trees

BATH, Eng.—A movement has
been started to plant fruit trees
along the streets here.EZRA MEEKER HAS
BIRTHDAY PARTYSEATTLE, (AP)—Ezra Meeker,
Oregon pioneer and trail blazer,
celebrated his ninety-third birth-
day anniversary here Saturday.
More than 70 guests attended the
celebration and most of them were
more than 70 years of age.One Life Is
Lost By Fire
In MedfordWeek-End Blazes Cause
Property Losses of
\$8,500,000; Two in Ore-
gon.Four fires, two in Chicago, one
in Portland and one in Medford,
Oregon, over the week-end, were ac-
counted for one life and property
loss totalling \$8,500,000.Jewish Temple Is Burned
PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—Temple
Beth Israel, the largest Jew-
ish synagogue in Portland, was de-
stroyed Saturday night by a fire
which the firemen and police de-
clared to be clearly of incendiary
origin. The loss was estimated at
\$250,000.Oregon Fire Fatal.
Medford, Ore. (AP)—Fire of
undetermined origin early Sunday
destroyed the Page theatre here
with an estimated loss of \$100,000
and caused the death of Amos H.
Willett, 30, prominent Medford
business man, and grave injuries to
Roy Elliott, Medford fire chief.
Both were struck by a falling wall.Two Fires in Chicago.
CHICAGO (AP)—Damages es-
timated at \$500,000 caused by two
fires which broke out within an
hour of each other in the business
section early Sunday.The first destroyed the inter-
ior of a four story building oc-
cupied by the Consolidated Music
company and for a time threat-
ened the Chicago Eye, Ear and Nose
and Throat hospital adjoining. Pa-
tients were removed to places of
safety. Damage was estimated at
more than \$200,000.A four story brick building on
State street, adjoining the Oc-
currence theatre, began burning
(Continued on page 5)

BULLETINS

Traffic Held Up.
MEDFORD, Ore. (AP)—Traffic
across Bear creek connecting east
and west Medford is still held up
today on account of walls left
standing since the fire here Sun-
day until an official inspection of
the walls can be made.Ask Commuted Sentence.
SACRAMENTO, (AP)—Mrs.
Annie Kels, wife of Alex Kels who
is under a death sentence, appear-
ed before Governor Richardson to-
day. She presented petitions ask-
ing that the Kels sentence be com-
muted to the imprisonment. The
governor made no statement after
the interview but had previously
declared that he would not inter-
vene in the Kels case.STORMS IN
COUNTRY
ARE MANYSeverest Storm of Winter
Reported East of
Rockies3 DEGREES ABOVE
IN GRANDE RONDEWyoming Reports Mer-
cury at 25 Degrees Be-
low Freezing Point,
Much Snow.While practically the entire
west and middle west is being
swept with a fierce blast of win-
ter, La Grande and the Grande
Ronde valley are getting the cold-
est weather of the season so far
this year.The thermometer dropped to its
lowest point in La Grande early
this morning when the registered
thermometer at the fire depart-
ment station reached three de-
grees above zero. Up until this
morning the coldest weather ex-
perienced in La Grande this fall
and winter was 15 degrees above,
which was where the thermometer
stopped last night before it
started its downward climb.Warmer This December
Last December the mercury fell
below zero three times once drop-

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GOVERNOR PIERCE
TO GIVE ADDRESS
HERE ON FEB. 26Announcement was made this
morning by the secretary of the
Chamber of Commerce that Gov-
ernor Walter M. Pierce, "Our Wal-
ter" to La Grande people, will
speak at the Chamber luncheon on
Tuesday, February 26.
The regular weekly luncheon
will be resumed Wednesday when
H. E. Dixon will preside at a New
Year's Resolution meeting. Sev-
eral especially good resolutions have
already been received and more are
thought forthcoming. A good pro-
gram has been arranged.
The luncheon will be held Wed-
nesday noon at the I. O. O. F. hall
instead of Tuesday due to New
Year's Day falling on Tuesday. On
the following week the regular
Tuesday luncheon will be re-
sumed.

THE FLIVVER THAT FLIVVERED

New Year to
Be Ushered
In TonightOutlook for 1924 Optim-
istic; La Grande Should
Profit in New Year.

(By Scoop)

At exactly 12 o'clock tonight,
the annual clang of bells and the
shrill of sirens and whistles will
usher out 1923, the old year, and
usher in 1924, the new year. And
as part of the annual custom of
the Christian world, the popula-
tion here will not go to bed until
"next year." Watch parties and
the like will be held to greet this
cherub "1924" who will displace
his hoary predecessor, "1923,"—
who is a year old today and whose
reign will be succeeded by a
newer, and brighter one.New Year's Day is defined as
the day on which the year com-
mences in the Gregorian calendar,
and the celebration of the com-
mencement of the new year dates
from high antiquity.
The observance of the date are
many and varied. The Jews re-
gard January 1 as the anniversary
of Adam's birthday, and celebrate
it with splendid entertainments; a
practice which they have contin-
ued down to the present time.
The Romans also made this a
holiday and dedicated it to Janus,
with rich and numerous sacrifices;
the newly elected magistrates en-
tered upon their duties on this
day; the people made each other
presents of gold dates, figs and

(Continued on page 5)

WILL TRY TO
IDENTIFY MANChief of Police and H. E.
Watkins of Hill's Store
Went to Baker This
Morning.Clint Haynes, chief of police,
and H. E. Watkins, of Hill's de-
partment store, were unable to go
to Baker yesterday to attempt to
identify Robert H. Mossott, alias
Robert H. Mosko, as the man who
staged the Queen City this
morning. They left for the county
jail.Denny O'Dey and Mossott were
given a hearing in the justice of
the peace court at Baker Saturday
and are held in lieu of \$1,000 bail.
They are confined to the county
jail.

Bringing Out The Bodies

When the Capitol Hotel, Houston, Tex., was swept by fire recently,
three of the guests were trapped and burned to death. Many were hurt.
Photo shows firemen removing one of the victims.People Produced, Spent
And Saved More in '23Year's Conditions Are
Reviewed by the Fed-
eral Reserve BoardWASHINGTON, (AP)—The
American people produced more,
spent more and saved more in
1923 than in 1922, the Federal re-
serve board said Sunday in its an-
nual review of economic condi-
tions for the year.
As a whole, the review said, the
year was characterized by large
industrial output, practically full
employment, a sustained custom-
ers' demand for goods and a level
of prices more stable than in any
year since 1915.
Tracing the course of business
development, the board found the
peak of the output was reached in
May. There followed a recession in
industrial activity during the
summer months which, the board
said, arose more from a hesitancy
of business concerns in placing for-
ward orders than from a lessened
demand on the part of the ultimate
consumers. The price declines
which accompanied the conditions
were, therefore, chiefly in materi-
als used in industry rather than
in consumer goods.Buying Power Increased.
"A national income larger than
in 1922 arising both out of in-
creased earnings of factory work-
ers and larger proceeds from the
sale of farm products," the re-
view continued, "furnished the
buying power to absorb the in-
crease in output of goods. The
income of industrial workers as
the result of a volume of employ-
ment approximately 12 per cent
larger than in 1922 and of wage
advances greatly exceeding that
of the previous year.
"The total value of agricultural
production was about \$900,000,000
greater than in 1922. The increase
(Continued on page 5)SCHOOL HOUSE
FIRES OCCUROAKLAND, Cal. (By the Amer-
icated Press)—Ten firemen were
injured, one perhaps fatally, in a
fire supposedly of incendiary ori-
gin, which destroyed the city gram-
mar school today with a loss es-
timated at \$100,000. The firemen
were caught between falling walls
injured, one perhaps fatally. In a
room of the Garfield school here
by an employee a few hours after
the school burned. Police
saw a man in the school at all
of the city schools.WOODLAND, Calif. (AP)—Fire,
believed incendiary, destroyed the
Woodland high school today caus-
ing a loss of \$100,000. The fire
followed the destruction several
weeks ago of a school at Imperial,
near here, which was also suspect-
ed of being incendiary.APARTMENT
HOUSES ARE
DESTROYEDTwo Deaths in Addition
to Five Persons Seri-
ously InjuredFIREMEN RESCUED
OTHER OCCUPANTSDenver Early Morning
Fires Were Caused by
Overheated Furnaces
Due to Cold Wave.DENVER (By the Associated
Press)—One woman, Miss Bea-
trice Jones, teacher, was killed
and two others seriously injured
when they leaped from the third
floor of a burning apartment
house early today.The other occupants were re-
scued by firemen as the building
was being destroyed by flames.
Another woman, Miss Eula
Kramer, was burned to death
when she was trapped in a fire
in a second apartment house short-
ly after the first fire. Three per-
sons were injured in the second
fire.Both fires were apparently
caused by over heated furnaces
due to the cold wave.DENVER (By the Associated
Press)—Firemen, answering a call
with the thermometer 30 degrees
below zero, found an old apart-
ment building here in flames. Miss
Jones was lying unconscious on
the ground after jumping from the
window of her smoke filled room.
She died on the way to the hospi-
tal.Miss Evelyn Laramore and
Mary Olson were injured.
The second fire, in the three-
story apartment house, was a coun-
terpart of the first. Miss Kramer,
trapped by the flames, burned to
death. Earl Duskey slipped while
attempting to escape over the
roof and fell to the ground. Bea-
trice Duskey and Myrtle Winkler
jumped to the ground. All three
were rushed to the hospital seri-
ously injured.ROBBERS TRY
TO BREAK JAILEUGENE, (By the Associated
Press)—The sheriff is trying to
discover the whereabouts of Mur-
ray, Eddie Walker and "Santa
Wells," prisoners held in connection
with the Florence bank robbery,
with a hack saw with which they
sawed on a bar and were on their
way to escape had not they been
opportunistically discovered.

Late News Flashes

GOVERNOR PIERCE OPTIMISTIC.
SALEM (AP)—After a trip to his Union county
cattle ranch near La Grande, Governor Pierce re-
turned to his office today feeling encouraged over the market
outlook for beef cattle. The governor said there is no
doubt the market is starting on an upward trend and
the beef producer will soon be in a position to make
more money. He said he found prosperity in Eastern
Oregon which is spotted with towns that now flourish
but that were formerly disheartened.ARBUCKLE DIVORCE GRANTED.
PROVIDENCE, R. I. (AP)—Mrs. Arbuckle, wife
of "Fatty" Arbuckle, was granted a divorce in the su-
perior court today. The case was heard before Justice
Chester W. Barrows on dispositions that were granted
on the grounds of neglect to provide and desertion.
The divorce will become absolute six months from to-
day.EX-SERVICE MEN FILING.
SALEM (AP)—Because today was the final day
for making application for the ex-service men's cash
bonus under the Oregon bonus loan act, the ex-service
men's state aid commission has an exceedingly heavy
mail. The fact that today is the final day for this
class of benefits does not bar men whose letters asking
for applications are on file with the department, though
the applications may not have yet been received. In
such cases bonus may be paid at a later time.