EASTERN OREGON'S LEADING NEWSPAPER—EIGHT PAGES TODAY.

CITY EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

The Weather
PORTLAND (AP)—Oregon — Rain tonight and Wednesday. Strong south winds shifting to southerly gale.

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DENBY REFUSES TO QUIT POST

WOOL MEN CONCLUDE MEET TODAY

Pendleton Two-Day Oregon Woolgrowers Convention Near End

SHEEP INDUSTRY CONDITION GOOD

Hagenbarth Says Loss Due to Shrinkage in Shipments East Should Be Overcome.

PENDLETON, (By the Associated Press)—Charles J. Brand, for many years chief of the United States Bureau markets, addressing the Oregon Wool Growers convention here today, said the McNary-Haugen bill which he drafted was not essentially an administrative measure, but it was approved by Secretary Wallace as the most likely remedy for the farmers fundamental difficulties.

PENDLETON (By the Associated Press)—President Falconer reported that the sheep industry is in much better condition than last year.

President Hagenbarth, of the National association, said much loss, due to shrinkage in shipments to the east would be overcome by manufacturing woolens in the west.

PENDLETON, Or. (Special) — Approximately 150 were in attendance at the opening session of the 27th annual convention of the Oregon Wool Growers here yesterday. Sheepmen arriving on every train during the day gave promise of 200 or more in attendance before the convention closes today.

"I believe in the West for the West," said Frank J. Hagenbarth, president of the National Wool Growers, who addressed the meeting in the afternoon session. He advocated the manufacture of wool products in the West instead of on the Atlantic coast.

"Some years ago," he said, "a commission from England made a report that Portland and its vicinity offered the most ideal climate and humidity conditions in the world for the manufacture of wool products. Many Oregon wools, especially that raised in the Columbia river region, shrinks from 60 to 70 per cent, the average being 67 per cent. We are shipping this 67 pounds out of 100, of dirt and waste, to the east and paying freight on it. The goods are manufactured at high cost and shipped back. This unnecessary expense is a loss to the grower and to the consumer alike."

Mr. Falconer, president of the Oregon Wool Growers, spoke on the question of railroad service and rates, the proposal of the forest service to increase fees, the tariff

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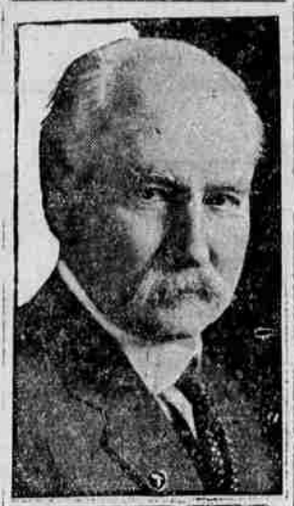
Norris Seeks Re-Election.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Senator Norris of Nebraska, one of the group of Republican insurgents who announced two years ago that he would retire at the end of his present term, said Monday he had decided to be a candidate for renomination.

Figures



Albert B. Fall, former secretary of the interior, and Harry F. Sinclair, oil man, who are prominent figures in the investigation being conducted by the U. S. Senate. Fall is pictured above.

UNION COUNTY LEGION MEETS

Council Elects Officers Here Last Evening; Compensation Is Discussed.

The Union County American Legion Council met in the Sommer grill here last evening with about thirty Legionnaires present. An election of officers was held with the result that Harley Richardson, La Grande, was elected president; Lyle Kiddle, Imbler, Secretary - Treasurer, and L. J. Murray, Perry, who is a member of the La Grande post, vice president. An executive committee was also named.

Before adjournment it was decided to hold the next meeting, April 29, at Hot Lake providing arrangements could be made.

Fred Kiddle, state commander of the American Legion, reported on national compensation. He stated that the executive com-

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INCOME TAX REDUCTIONS ARE URGED

Ways and Means Committee Action Affects 13,000,000 People

CUT 25 PERCENT EARNED INCOMES

All Under $5,000 Classified as Earned; $20,000 Set as Maximum Sum in Class.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Income tax payers got their first slice of the proposed tax relief Monday when the house ways and means committee adopted the recommendation of Secretary Mellon to allow a special 25 per cent reduction in the tax on incomes which are "earned."

All taxable incomes under $5,000 were defined as earned for purposes of this reduction, while $20,000 was set as the maximum amount of incomes on which the reduction could be taken.

Treasury estimates show that about 13,000,000 taxpayers have incomes of less than $5,000 and automatically could deduct from their tax when computed 25 per cent of its total. Thus a married man with two children who now pays a tax of $28 on an income of $4,000 would pay only $21 on this figure, not taking into account any normal income tax reductions—a proposition still before the committee.

Disposition of this section of the bill cleared the way with the exception of some odds and ends to be taken up Tuesday, for consideration by the committee on income rates themselves including the surtaxes, the main point at issue in the tax revision program.

Republican Program Discussed.

Majority members of the committee met late Monday to discuss a program of procedure but agreed only to meet in full committee Tuesday. Some members have declared for writing a Republican income rate schedule while others wish to work out the rates in full committee. Democrats, however, have declared they will stand solidly for their party proposal of a reduction in surtax to a 44 per cent maximum instead of 25 per cent as suggested by Secretary Mellon. The house Republican steering committee al-

(Continued on page 5)

Four Jurors Selected In Bloom Case

Four jurors had been selected in the justice of the peace court this morning before adjournment for the luncheon hour to hear the trial of the State vs. Clyde Bloom, charged with possession of intoxicating liquor.

Interest is running high in the trial. Court was opened this morning at 10 o'clock with Judge Hugh Brady presiding. Courtroom spectators were many.

Several talesmen were examined by the attorneys and the court but only four had been selected up to the noon hour. They are James McNamee, Ed Meyernick, Leo French and Thomas Johnson.

Continuation of the selection of the other two men required to complete the jury of six was begun at one o'clock this afternoon, when court again convened.

Attorney Hess is representing the defendant and J. D Slater, acting prosecuting attorney, is conducting the case for the state.

Bloom was arrested by a raiding party, led by officers of the sheriff and including one policeman, a few days ago. The officers assert that two gallons of liquor was found on his premises.

RECOGNITION IS SLOWED UP

LONDON, (By the Associated Press)—Prime Minister MacDonald has met circumstances which have compelled him to go slower regarding recognition of Russia by Great Britain than he had intended when he took office, according to some political writers.

The Daily Mail says permanent officials of the foreign office and examination of documents on file there have convinced MacDonald that such a step would not be in the best interests of the country.

NEW STRIKE IS NOW PLANNED

LONDON, (By the Associated Press)—Union dock workers today decided to withdraw from service February 16 in all parts of Great Britain unless satisfactory settlement of current wage disputes are reached.

The threat of the dock workers' strike comes after settlement late yesterday of the railway strike.

RELIEF BILL IS ORDERED APPROVED

Norbeck-Burtness Farmers Relief Measure Is Acted Upon by Committee.

AMENDMENTS ARE HELD FAVORABLE

Would Increase Appropriation for Financial Relief to $70,000,000; Also No Class Exclusion.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—The Norbeck - Burtness bill, providing for financial relief for farmers who are located in areas stricken by crop failures, was ordered favorably reported today by the senate agriculture committee.

An amendment was approved increasing the appropriation from $50,000,000 to $70,000,000, and for making an additional amount available for farmers generally instead of only wheat farmers.

According to a Washington news bureau of a Portland newspaper, two northwestern members of congress today led delegations to President Coolidge to appeal for his support for the McNary-Haugen export corporation bill which is now under consideration by senate and house committees on agriculture. Scott Leavitt, Montana representative, was accompanied by Chester C. Davis, Montana state commissioner of agriculture; M. L. Wilson, director of extension work for the Montana agricultural college and W. G. Stockton, president of the farm bureau of the state. This group was followed by Representative Burton L. French of Idaho, with George C. Jewett, general manager of the American Wheat Growers' associated of Minneapolis and Portland; G. P. Mix, representing the Idaho Export Corporation league and Huston Egbert, president of the Oregon State Farmers' union.

The measure, for which the aid of the president was solicited, would establish a government corporation to deal in the export surplus of wheat and other farm products, at prices based upon the prewar purchasing values of the commodities. The northwestern men

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Miss Margaret Harding

Miss Margaret Harding, daughter of W. P. G. Harding, former governor of the federal reserve board, who committed suicide by shooting herself with her father's revolver at her home in Boston. "I couldn't stand life any longer" was one of the phrases of a note left by her. Her father said his daughter's act was due to her love for "social life, dancing every night and smoking cigarettes."

MYSTERY OF DEATH SOLVED

Father of Miss Margaret Harding, Suicide, Tells of Notes Left by Girl.

BOSTON (By the Associated Press)—W. P. Harding, governor of the federal reserve bank of Boston, in a statement made Monday night, admitted that his daughter, Margaret Elliot Harding, who was found dead at her home last Saturday, committed suicide by shooting herself with his revolver.

Earlier in the day medical examiners had reported Miss Harding's suicide but the immediate cause of death was not made known.

Miss Harding, her father said, left notes addressed to him, to relatives and to friends. In the notes to her father the young woman asked forgiveness "for what she had done and what she was about to do."

"I couldn't stand life any longer," was one of the phrases of the note, said Mr. Harding. He said his daughter's act was due to her love for "social life, dancing every night and smoking cigarettes."

McADOO WINNER IN FIRST ROUND OF MISSOURI GO

ST. LOUIS (AP) — What anti-Reed Democrats in Missouri described as the "first setback to Senator James H. Reed's presidential candidacy" was the action Monday of the Democratic state committee in deciding to meet in Springfield for the 1924 state convention by a 28 to 26 vote. The McAdoo forces asserted they have 28 votes on the state committee. The Reed supporters, it was said, did not want to the convention to go to Springfield. The action came less than 24 hours after Reed announced his candidacy.

LA GRANDE, ORE., PIONEER DEAD AT ROSEBURG

Benjamin Blackburn, a pioneer of the Grande Ronde valley and well known in this section of the state, died Sunday at the Soldiers Home of Roseburg, Oregon. Many friends in this city were shocked to hear of his demise and his relatives are receiving the sincere sympathies of their many friends in their bereavement.

Mr. Blackburn, who came to Oregon in the year 1867, is an uncle of Mrs. Frank Cleavinger, Mrs. L. H. Russell and Mrs. Frank Rohan, all of this city.

At one time Mr. Blackburn was owner of the Grandy addition to the city of La Grande.

Many Die From Exposure.

ATHENS (AP)—Scores of persons have been frozen to death in the cold wave that prevails throughout Greece. One message from Saloniki says that three soldiers and 156 civilians living under canvas shelters have died of exposure.

BULLETINS

Will Testify.

SALEM, (AP) — Accompanied by Deputy Sheriff Rhodes of Lane county, Tom Murray and Eddie Walker, each serving a 20 year term for participating in the Florence bank robbery, left for Eugene this morning to testify in the trials of John Herring and Nels Berken, accused of having aided the bandits to escape.

E. gs Higher Today.

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Livestock steady, eggs one cent higher, 34½ to 38 cents, butter steady.

MABEL NORMAND TO GO ON STAND THIS AFTERNOON

LOS ANGELES, (I.N.S.)—Mabel Normand, who has been summoned to appear before District Attorney Asa Keyes this afternoon for a grilling on her testimony given at the preliminary hearing of Horace A. Greer, her chauffeur, charged with shooting Courtland S. Dines, insisted that her attorney be present at the questioning. Mr. Keyes, it was said, will have no objection to this.

Keyes plans to question Miss Normand especially on her testimony that she neither saw nor heard anything that occurred after Greer entered Dines' apartment on New Year's night.

Coy Purnell Dies

BENTON HARBOR, Michigan, (AP)—Coy Purnell, 40 years old, son of Benjamin Purnell, fugitive "king" of the House of David colony, died at Shiloh house, his father's home, Sunday, following a lingering illness aggravated by pneumonia. His death was made known Monday.

FALL SAID TO BE NEAR BREAKDOWN

Doctor Urges Committee to Question Him in Sick Room

SINCLAIR NOT TO RETURN TO U. S

Oil Man Refuses to Leave Europe to Testify Until He Has Completed His Business There.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press) — Secretary Denby announced after a cabinet meeting at which the oil lease investigation was considered that he had no intentions at the present of resigning.

President Coolidge today replied to questions that he did not care to discuss the Robinson resolution requesting the resignation of Secretary Denby.

The president considers the whole oil leasing investigations as having resolved itself into two major problems for the executive branch, first to determine whether there was criminal liability, second to ascertain whether the leases are legal and are to the best interests of the government.

All other matters are of lesser importance in his opinion.

The selection of counsel to prosecue oil lease cases is being held up awaiting action in the senate on the Walsh resolution directing the president to proceed for the cancellation of all Doheny leases as well as those held by the Sinclair interests.

WASHINGTON, (AP)—"I am so convinced that I did the right thing that I would do it again tomorrow regardless of the consequences," said Secretary Denby today.

"I feel that I carried out the will of congress and my activities served the best interests of the people. Accordingly I have nothing to regret and no reason to resign."

Roosevelt in the Clear.

Assistant Secretary Roosevelt,

(Continued on page 5)

FREE STATE IS PROCLAIMED

TOKIO, (By Associated Press)—White forces in Siberia have seized upon Lenine's death to proclaim a free state in the Amur province and have interrupted railway service to Vladivostok and other points eastward, according to Japanese government advices from Mukden.

IT'S GOING TO BE HARD TRAVELING

446 Students Enrolled In La Grande Hi

With the second semester of the La Grande high school well underway, a total of 446 students are enrolled in the high school which is an increase of more than half a hundred over the figures last year at this time.

Of the total students enrolled, over 90 are from outside District No. 1 which comprises La Grande.

Another item of interest is the fact that the number of grammar school graduates entering high school and the number of high school graduates entering college is steadily on the increase. Almost 100 per cent of the eighth grade graduates are now taking high school training and from 30 to 40 percent of the La Grande high school graduates are yearly entering college.

In the local high school at present all students are required to take English. Two hundred and seventy-five are enrolled in mathematics classes, 239 are taking history, 150 are studying science, 80 are learning the typewriter, 100 boys are taking in the manual training department, 90 high school students are taking home economics, 150 are taking language (French, Latin or Spanish) and the commercial department is well filled.

In addition to the above subjects Bible exposition for credit are held at the end of each semester. Thirty-five students are also taking work outside of school for credit.

Business English and economics are also being taught in the high school here now.

Three girls, Ella Neiderer, Ruth Scott and Margaret Creasey are taking library work under the supervision of the city librarian and are practicing by assisting in taking charge of the high school library. At present they are recataloging and remodeling the library. No credits are given for this work.

Incidentally, in speaking of the high school, the student body are on record as being very much pleased with the increased attendance at basketball games in the gymnasium.

Late News Flashes

AIR SERVICE PROBE DEMANDED.

WASHINGTON (AP).—Sweeping investigation of the air service was demanded in the house of representatives today by Representative Nelson, Republican, of Wisconsin, who declared he was informed that the conditions existing now are a continuation of the same practices by the same parties that "wrote the blackest page in America's war history in aircraft failure."

STORM WARNINGS OUT.

PORTLAND (AP).—Storm warnings were ordered out today along the Oregon and Washington coasts.

ASTORIA (AP).—A storm at the mouth of the Columbia river moderated today when the wind dropped from 70 miles per hour at 8 o'clock this morning to 48 miles per hour at 11 o'clock. The barometer is rising rapidly.

DIED FROM BURNS.

TACOMA (AP).—Mrs. Rachal Michael, 65, died today from burns received last night when her clothing caught afire. She was working in a kitchen when her apron strings became ignited from the gas jet on the stove. Before she could summon aid the flames had enveloped and fatally burned her.