EASTERN OREGON'S LEADING NEWSPAPER—EIGHT PAGES TODAY.

CITY EDITION

# La Grande Evening Observer

The Weather
PORTLAND (AP)—Oregon—Rain tonight and Friday. Strong southerly gales.

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# WALSH BILL PASSES IN SENATE

## LOTS WORTH LESS THAN SUM ASKED

Assessments Are Higher Than Value of Property in District 137

### DISTRICT MAY BE FORCED SHUNTED

Only Way to Save Improvement Would Be for Lot Owners to Pay Difference in Cash.

Discussion of the situation regarding proportionate value of lots in improvement district No. 137 and the amount of assessments against property adjacent to the planned paving and other improvements, came before the commissioners' session last evening in the city hall building.

It appears that in a great many cases the assessed value of the lots affected is less than the improvement assessment against the lots, which is a direct contradiction to the Bancroft bonding act. If the district goes through to completion it will be necessary for persons concerned to pay the difference between the value of their lots and the assessments in cash in order to conform to the bonding act and secure the improvements legally.

According to City Manager F. B. Hayes the average value of the lots in the district ranges $150 and less lower than the improvement assessments against them. In one case 3 lots are valued at $660 and the improvement assessment against the lots amounts to $1495.

Taking this case as an example, if the improvement district is put through, the owners of the lots would then pay the remainder of the assessment either under the 10-year payment plan that is used

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## Their Engagement is Expected

His Royal Highness, Prince George of England, is shown above walking with Lady Alexandra Curzon, daughter of Lord Curzon. British people expect soon to hear of their engagement.

## REPUBLICAN TAX RELIEF PLAN VOTED

G. O. P. Leaders Plan Relief for 1923 Taxpayers

### REPUBLICANS TO WRITE OWN BILL

Ways and Means Majority Vote Given to Reduce Income Rates for 1923.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Secretary Mellon regards as feasible the plan of Republican members of the House make proposed income tax reduction effective on 1923 payments. Mellon believes the step would entail no difficulties on the U. S. treasury.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Income taxpayers would receive a reduction in their 1923 taxes payable this year under a provision voted Wednesday by Republican members of the house ways and means committee.

The amount of reduction has not been determined but Chairman Green, author of the proposal, said it might be as high as 25 per cent.

It would apply to the taxes after they have been computed and to all personal income taxpayers. Treasury experts estimated that a 25 per cent cut would mean a saving to taxpayers of $225,000,000.

Mr. Green explained the reduction was aimed at immediate relief whereas application of the rates in both the Mellon and Garner plans would begin on this year's taxes.

**Will Write Own Rates.**

The action was the first taken on new income rates which the Republican members of the committee decided Wednesday to write themselves and put through in committee by a majority vote.

Representative Hull of Tennessee, a member of the committee and chairman of the Democratic national committee, announced Wednesday night that Democratic members of the committee had intended to present a similar proposal, but in the form of a joint resolution which could have been taken before the house and senate for action before March 15 when the first installments on last year's taxes are due.

Under the plan adopted Wednesday the reduction will be made a part of the revenue bill. If it is approved after March 15, Mr. Green said, provision will be made

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## Doheny

E. L. Doheny, head of the Pan-American Petroleum company, holder of a lease on a California oil field in the naval reserve, figures in the Teapot Dome investigation. He is urgently seeking a rehearing.

## FISTS USED DURING JAP DIET MEET

Executive Branch Dissolves Following Disorderly Scenes

### WATER FLASKS THROWN FREELY

Disturbance Resulted Because of Opposition Action Regarding Wrecking of Train at Nagoya

TOKIO (By the Associated Press)—The Imperial Diet today dissolved following scenes of the greatest disorder in which water flasks were thrown and fists were freely used.

The disturbance resulted from attempts of the opposition to interpellate the government regarding the wrecking of a train at Nagoya carrying opposition leaders to Tokio.

Three opposition leaders on the train escaped injuries although the locomotive was damaged by logs and stones piled on the track.

**Wreck one of Series**

The attempted train wreck was one of a series marking a bitter fight between the newly formed cabinet under Premier Kiyoura and opposition leaders, both sides using ruffianism as their weapons.

Within the past 48 hours political "bullies" have attempted to burn the house of the elder statesmen Matsuki and Saionji at Okitsu, Pirata at Kushi and Viscount Itoh in Tokio.

These noblemen are blamed by their political foes with being responsible for the attacks seeking the formation of a "privileged class cabinet" under Premier Kiyoura.

## Zevely

J. W. Zevely, intimate friend and personal attorney for Harry F. Sinclair, oil king, testified before the Senate committee that Sinclair loaned former Secretary Fall $25,000. Zev, the famous race horse, was named after Zevely.

## AGED LOVER'S LETTERS READ

Mrs. de Bouchel Submits Loving Missives from Asa Candler in Atlanta Trial.

ATLANTA, Ga. (By the Associated Press)—Nineteen letters from Asa G. Candler, Sr., to Mrs. Onezima de Bouchel, were introduced in her $500,000 damage suit for breach of promise. The courtroom was so crowded today that many were forced to remain in the corridor.

The letters read today included that of September 15th, 1922, which is alleged to have broken the engagement.

It stated: "Information has just been brought to me from sources entitled to belief that two men living in Atlanta claim to have, in times gone by, visited you by your invitation at night in your room at a hotel. To marry you with these reports in circulation could not in any case be right or fair to either of us, even though they be untrue."

ATLANTA (AP)—Reading of letters said to have been written to Mrs. Onizema de Bouchel of New Orleans by Asa G. Candler, sr., a contention by defense attorneys that Mrs. De Bouchel was legally married to Adolph Bosquet of New Orleans at the time she became engaged to Mr. Candler and the announcement that both principals are barred from taking the stand in their own behalf, marked the first day's session of the trial of the suit for five-hundred thousand dollars damages for breach of promise filed against Mr. Candler by Mrs. De Bouchel. Bouchel was legally married at the time she became engaged to Mr. Candler was contained in an amendment to Mr. Candler's original answer to the suit, filed just prior to the reading of the letters by Albert Howell, jr., leading plaintiff's counsel.

Mrs. De Bouchel, with several

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## PRESIDENT TALKS WITH PARTY HEADS

Coolidge Interviews Republican and Democratic Leaders

### OIL ANNULMENT DEBATE RESUMED

Senate Again Takes Up the Senator Walsh Oil Lease Annulment Resolution.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—The Walsh resolution directing the president to proceed with suits for annulment of the Doheny and Sinclair oil leases was adopted today by the Senate.

After passing the Walsh resolution the Senate took up the resolution demanding Secretary Denby's resignation.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—A move to attach the Robinson resolution calling for Denby's resignation to the Walsh oil lease annulment measure was made today by Senator Trammell, Democrat, of Florida, but Trammell withdrew the amendment after several senators said it would delay action on the Walsh resolution. Lodge opposed the move, saying the only way the legislative branch could remove an officer of the president's cabinet was by impeachment.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press) — Democratic and Republican senate leaders were consulted by President Coolidge today before the senate debate on the Walsh oil lease annulment resolution was resumed.

After the ranking G. O. P. sen-

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## BULLETINS

**Coast Defense Scored**

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The coast defense of the northwest, particularly of Columbia River, Puget Sound, Grays Harbor, and Willapa Bay "would be utterly unable to protect units of an American battlefleet before they could take up battle formation." Brigadier General Henry Todd, commanding the Ninth Coast Artillery announced today after completing a survey of conditions.

**Body Is Sighted.**

PENDLETON (AP) —Railroad men at Rieth, three miles below Pendleton, this morning saw a body in the Umatilla River which they believed to be that of Roy Tebin, of La Grande, who disappeared December 25th. The men lost sight of it at Cox Dam.

### FIREMEN PLAN CLAM FEED FOR FRIDAY NIGHT

The volunteer and regular members of the La Grande Fire Department will stage a clam feed tomorrow evening at seven o'clock in the back room of the department headquarters, according to announcement today by C. O. Murchison, fire chief.

The city commissioners have also been invited to the feed.

**Mrs. Alexander Improves.**

Mrs. Robert Alexander, who has been in the hospital for several weeks, is considerable improved.

**Dog License the Same.**

No change has been made in the dog license and the city treasurer is busy today issuing receipts to owners of canines. The rate of one dollar for males and two dollars for females still is in force.

## HEALTH PROBE WILL BE MADE

Scarlet Fever Cases Are Claimed to Have Originated at Greenwood School; Probe Is to Be Made.

An investigation is to be conducted probably this afternoon, by city and health officials to determine whether it will be necessary to close down the Greenwood grammar school temporarily for the purpose of halting the spread of scarlet fever that is thought to have originated from the school.

A complete examination will be made and in all likelihood, whether the school is temporarily closed or not, a thorough fumigation

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### JUDGE KNOWLES RETURNS FROM WESTERN OREGON

Judge J. W. Knowles, of La Grande, returned home this morning on Train No. 24 from Western Oregon where he has spent the past fortnight. He presided at circuit court at Oregon City while in the western portion of the state.

Judge Knowles is a candidate for the Republican nomination for justice of the state supreme court.

Grand jury will meet soon in La Grande probably next week. Circuit court, with Judge Knowles presiding will begin the first Monday in February, which falls on the fourth day of the month.

### FRED TERPANY IS AGAIN WITH WESTERN UNION

Fred Terpany, who has been engaged in raising apples at Elgin for the past year but who was formerly associated with the Western Union here, has returned to La Grande and has accepted the managership of the local Western Union, taking the place of Mr. Fraker who has resigned.

Mr. Fraker will go to Portland, according to announcements he has made to friends.

**Hi Dads Held Meeting.**

The first business meeting of the La Grande Hi Dads was held last evening in the La Grande National bank building and a program including several undertakings was discussed. Every Hi Dad present indicated that he was delighted with the organization as far as it has progressed, and the echo from the student body as gained by Hi Dads is that it is a welcome adjunct to the schools.

### Endowment Fund Is Being Planned By Episcopalians

PORTLAND, Ore. — Proposal that the Episcopal diocese of Oregon raise an endowment fund of $100,000 during the next 10 years was made in a special communication placed before the 35th annual convention of the Episcopal church of the state at St. Stephens Pro-Cathedral by E. N. Strong of the board of trustees.

Recommendation was made by Strong that this amount be raised through the negotiation of life insurance policies, preferably short term endowments on account of the recent and increasing federal estate, state income and state inheritance tax laws.

## DAVIS BOOHED BY WORKMEN

Secretary of Labor Is Howled at by the United Mine Workers of America's Convention

INDIANAPOLIS (By the Associated Press)—Howls and boos greeted Secretary of Labor Davis when he was introduced by President Lewis to the biennial convention of the United Mine Workers of America here today.

Lewis had asked for a respectful hearing for the "member of the president's cabinet."

When the tumult proceeded Lewis again took the floor and shouted, "The honor of your organization is at stake. You are on trial before the country. Exercise self restraint that our organization will not be publicly condemned."

He then requested those unwilling to hear the speaker to leave the hall. After a prolonged per-

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## NAME DATES FOR TOURNEY

Basketball District Championship to Be Fought Out at Union Feb. 28, 29-March 1.

The championship basketball tournament of District No. 1 to be held in Union in the new gymnasium for the purpose of determining title honors of the district and which team shall represent the district in the state basketball tournament in western Oregon in March, will be held three days—February 28, 29 and March 1, according to announcements today.

Superintendent Roy Conklin, of Union high school, an ardent supporter of athletics and other student body activities of schools, will have charge of the tournament. Mr. Conklin is entirely capable of "running off" the tourney in the most efficient manner and those who remember the Eastern Oregon track meet at Union a few years ago will verify the fact mentioned above. When Mr. Conklin is in charge of any competitive event it invariably goes through to a finish in the shortest and most efficient manner possible.

**Many Teams to Enter.**

The high school basketball teams of the district, which comprises Union, Wallowa, Grant, Malheur, Harney and Baker counties, are taking much interest in the coming tournament and about ten or more teams are expected to enter.

From Union, Baker and Wallowa counties the greater share of the teams are expected to enter inasmuch as in the other counties many of the teams are holding tournaments to determine which

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## WILL MUSTER CAMP OF S. V.

Commander C. E. Foster Expected Here February 12 at Sons of Veterans Muster.

Preliminary arrangements have been completed for the mustering of a Camp of Sons of Veterans in the city of La Grande on Tuesday the 12th of February in the Knights of Pythias hall at 8 p. m.

There is a promise of a strong camp being organized as in and about La Grande there are, it is estimated more than one hundred sons and grandsons of those who served in the Union Army to preserve the integrity of our country. All sons and grandsons who have attained the age of eighteen years are eligible to sign the muster roll of a Camp of Sons of Veterans and it is the object and intent of the order to continue the work of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The organization of this camp is in line with the policy of the Division of Oregon as fixed at the last Encampment held in Grants Pass last June—that of doubling the number of camps and the membership this year. By the organization of several camps in the western portions of the state up to this time it is hoped to accomplish the work as set out.

This movement has the hearty support of the local Corps and the Veterans of O. P. Morton Post Department of Oregon, Grand Army of the Republic. At this time the decision of making this an open meeting has not been made.

Several of the local people of prominence are deeply interested in this work and it is expected that Division Commander Foster and several of the present and past division officers will be present.

### TED THYE BEATS SAM CLAPPAM IN PORTLAND MATCH

PORTLAND (By the Associated Press)—Ted Thye defeated Sam Clappam, English champion, here last night.

Thye got one fall at the end of an hour, forty-four minutes and 21 seconds.

## NAME OF PLAY NOW CHANGED

The Grande Ronde chautauqua association has changed the name of the play to be given soon at the Arcade theatre to clear up the debt of $700 carried over by the association from last year. "Lion and the Mouse" is the new name selected.

The drama will be presented Wednesday, February 20 with Miss Lorna Coolidge taking the leading part. H. E. Coolidge will direct the production.

**Want Place for Bandman.**

A. E. Bartlesworth, aged 22, who was in the navy three years and in the army one year, is in La Grande and is desirous of making this city his home. He is a musician and the La Grande Municipal band is anxious for him to remain in the city. He has had some experience as a grocery clerk and also experience in office work. He graduated from the Gem City Business College at Quincy, Illinois. Mr. Bartlesworth is willing to accept any kind of work and the band asks that consideration be given him by anyone who needs help.

**[Wo]rried or in Doubt? [As]k Magician Richards**

[Th]ere are many people [...] and the victims who [...] being advised re[...] business, domestic [...] and the Evening [...] arranged with Rich[...] ards, the great [...] magician, whereby he will answer through the columns of this paper [...] ques[tio]ns that [...] may be sub[mit]ted to Rich[ards] [...] does [...] claim [...] be a [...] mind read[er] [...] but says [...] scientist [...] that he derives the answers to all questions from modern and scientific methods.

Those who have seen his performance claim that he is not only America's leading magician but also a real showman, as he brings a big production to the Arcade theater for three days starting Monday, February 4.

Richards carries a special carload of scenery and effects, a big company and special orchestra and under his contract with the theater he is only permitted to respond to questions during his performance at the theater or in the columns of the Evening Observer.

**Ask Him Anything.**

Ask Richards about anything that may be troubling you; questions concerning your business and love affairs, investments, lost arti-

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## Honest Man Gives Cop Four Bottles of Moon

(By Scoop)

All the honest men aren't dead yet.

And that's a fact—if you don't believe it ask Clint Haynes, chief of police and he'll tell you.

The reason for the opening and somewhat startling statement is that John Doe, who did not give his true name, presented the police department this morning with four quarts of nicely bottled and bonded moonshine. At least it was bottled and from careful whiffs taken from the place where the cork ought to be, it was determined that it might very easily pass on unsuspecting mortals as bonded stuff if it had the correct labels and seals affixed.

Chief Haynes asserted that it wasn't for him to doubt the story of the stranger and as a result the man strolls about his business today feeling that he has done a honest and glorious thing in presenting the moon to the authorities—or at least that's the way he should feel.

**Wasn't a Cleaver Man.**

"He didn't look like one of George Cleaver's agents," stated Clint when questioned by the writer what the giver of liquor's stand-

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## Late News Flashes

**TWO KILLED BY MAN**

EPHRATA, Wash. (AP).—Two men were shot and a third man and a woman were wounded, perhaps fatally, by a man alleged to be named Owen Hudson, who has escaped to the hills after terrorizing the countryside from 10:30 o'clock last night until dawn today. Ira Slateen, farmer, and Earl Hudson, brother of Owen, were killed. Mrs. Slaten is in a serious condition from loss of blood from a wound in the arm. Glen Pugh was shot through the lungs and is being buried to Spokane. A posse is following the murderer.

**WILSON IS INDISPOSED.**

WASHINGTON (AP). — Ex-President Woodrow Wilson has been indisposed two days, it became known today, although attending physicians said his illness is not serious.