

CITY EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

The Weather Portland, (AP)—Oregon—Fair tonight and Thursday, except probable rain Thursday near coast.

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MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

LA GRANDE, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1924.

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MEACHAM IS PRESIDENT FOR '24 TERM

A. W. Nelson Again Is Named Oregon Trail Secretary-Treasurer

MUCH PROGRESS MADE AT MEET

Trail Association Placed on a Firm Financial Basis—Plans Outlined and Supported.

Last evening, just before adjournment of the Old Oregon Trail association's annual meeting, Walter E. Meacham was re-named president of the association for the coming year and A. W. Nelson, of La Grande, was re-named secretary-treasurer.

Meacham was elected by the executive committee at a later date. The placing of the Old Oregon Trail movement upon a firm financial basis and the furtherance of work of promotion of the movement, with the eventual aim of having a paved stretch of highway from Missouri to the Pacific coast where once the pioneers trekked westward behind oxen were two features brought out in the Old Oregon Trail association annual meeting here yesterday.

With the adoption of a budget of approximately \$19,000, the financing of the movement seems assured. The budget committee, headed by Marshall Dana, of the Oregon Journal of Portland, also recommended that a broader movement of promotion be adopted and pushed to the utmost.

May Beautify Trail. In addition to seeking the paving of the Old Oregon Trail along its transcontinental and historic way, discussion occurred late yesterday afternoon regarding that trail be planted along the route of the trail and that steps be made to preserve forests adjacent to the highway.

Much discussion followed and several speakers advocated such a plan also expressing regret that in some sections unrighted signboards, etc., already adorned sides of the trail.

Pledge Support. The leaders in the movement were pledged support on all sides. Both the Oregon State Highway commission and the Idaho bureau of highways, through William Duby, of Baker, and J. D. Wood, of Boise, announced that they would do their utmost to foster the aims of the association. This decision regarding the \$1.5 million stretch of unfinished trail near

(Continued on page 5)

HOME TALENT PLAY BOOSTED

Evidence that the Chautauqua association is not alone in its efforts to present "The Lion and the Mouse" is seen in the way other organizations are coming to the front with support. The schools of the city, through their leaders are assisting in every way possible. Commerce has taken a friendly hand in the matter. The fact that two capacity houses are required to put the Chautauqua finances on an even keel is of course a pertinent fact in the case, but is even more of interest in that the Chautauqua association assumes every patron of the home talent production they will be amply repaid in entertainment for every cent spent on tickets.

The cast will be published tomorrow.

Teachers Will Gather At Elgin February 16

A local teachers' institute will be held Saturday, February 16, at the high school building in Elgin, according to announcements made today.

The institute, one of a series that are scheduled for Union county, will open at seven o'clock in the morning with music under the direction of the Elgin school. Fifteen minutes later Frances Brown, superintendent of Baker schools, will speak, using as his topic "Teaching Exceptional Children." During the noon intermission a cafeteria luncheon will be served by the domestic science department of the Elgin high school.

Exposed Oil Scandal

By MICHAEL F. DACEY. DENVER, Colo. (INS)—It was just in the line of duty as a reporter that the laconic comment of D. F. Stackelbeck, Denver newspaperman, who was given credit on the floor of the United States senate by Senator Walsh of Montana for performing a "great public service" in revealing the essential facts that resulted in the thorough investigation of the conditions surrounding the leasing to Harry F. Sinclair by former Secretary of the Interior A. E. Fall of the Teapot Dome (Wyoming) naval oil reserve.



D. F. Stackelbeck

Stackelbeck declined to go into details regarding his trip to New Mexico in the summer of 1922, when he discovered that Harry F. Sinclair's private car, which had stood on a side-track at Three Rivers, N. M., for several days prior to the securing of the valuable oil leases by Sinclair from the interior department.

Fall's ranch smuggles close to a mountain near Three Rivers and Sinclair had been a guest of honor there at a series of informal parties.

From other sources it was learned that Stackelbeck spent a strenuous fortnight in the state of New Mexico, pointing over official records that disclosed the fact that Fall had paid ten years delinquent taxes shortly after the awarding of the leases to Sinclair, and that extensive improvements had been started about the same time on Fall's ranch property, which for years had been considered in a "deplorably run-down condition."

The Denver newspaper reporter, it was said, traveled from one end of the state to the other investigating Fall's affairs; he talked with former mining associates of Fall; spent many nights in the cactus-infested desert searching out cowboys who were acquainted with Fall's career; interviewed former members of the territorial government of New Mexico who knew Fall as a district territorial judge under appointment of former President Grover Cleveland; Stackelbeck obtained intimate details of Fall's work in the constitutional convention that preceded the acceptance of New Mexico into complete statehood in the union, and he learned of the former cabinet member's activities as a state senator and later as United States senator from New Mexico.

According to close friends of Stackelbeck, the Denver newspaperman encountered some thrilling experiences in his investigation in New Mexico and heard many lurid tales of political conditions in that state from the lips of former associates and acquaintances of Fall, who have been intimate with the latter's career from the time he was a minor to his elevation to the cabinet of the late President Harding.

These revelations are said to have "dismayed" Senator Walsh when they were made to him in Washington last November by the Denver reporter.

Stackelbeck is widely known throughout Colorado and the intermountain region. He first came to Denver in 1905 from the south, having been engaged in newspaper work in Louisville, Ky., and other cities. At one time he was known as the "nickel police reporter" of Denver, but in recent years he has "covered" the state house, sessions of the legislature and general politics. He has attended several national political conventions for the local paper by which he is employed.

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CHIEF SEES PROGRESS IN U. S. AFFAIRS

Lincoln Day Addresses Given by Coolidge at New York

TOUCHES ON OIL INVESTIGATION

Soldier Bonus, Tax Reduction and Mexican Situation Also Are Discussed by Coolidge.

NEW YORK (By the Associated Press)—National and international political and economic affairs of the present time were touched on by President Calvin Coolidge in an address delivered here Tuesday evening at a meeting of the National Republican club held in commemoration of Lincoln's birthday. The recent disclosures in the investigation of the government oil land leases, the proposed soldier bonus, the tax bill now before congress and proposed legislation designed to all the agricultural interests of the country, were the main subjects touched on by the president.

"No one would deny," the president said, "that industrially we are very flourishing. But agriculture has only partially recovered. Its position, however, has improved and the returns for the year nearly 20 per cent in excess of two years ago.

"The farm is one of the chief markets for the industries of the nation," the president declared. "You have a direct economic and financial interest; you can no longer prosper with that great population and that great need in distress." Mr. Coolidge added in this connection that he would not discuss in detail any remedial measure designed to aid the agricultural interests as he had done fully in his recent address to congress and that his suggestions already had been embodied in bills brought before congress.

Discusses Tax Bill. In reviewing the tax situation Mr. Coolidge pointed out that the amount of income tax paid by the people to the federal government was considerably smaller than the amount paid to the state and local governments. The tax burden placed upon the people during the war Mr. Coolidge said had been greatly reduced, due to measures of economy reported in all departments of the federal government.

The discussion of the tax question led up to a mention of the much discussed soldier bonus and the president emphasized that in his opinion the payment of such a bonus would not only result in increased taxes but could not be considered a commensurate and adequate remuneration for the patriotic services rendered by those

who served in the army and navy during the war. Mr. Coolidge said that the amount of income tax paid by the people to the federal government was considerably smaller than the amount paid to the state and local governments. The tax burden placed upon the people during the war Mr. Coolidge said had been greatly reduced, due to measures of economy reported in all departments of the federal government.

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Helix Loses To Legion 5 Last Night

Game Won by La Granders Due to Desperate Rally Netting 16 Points

(By Scoop)

After the Helix five had consistently scored basket after basket in the second half until the score stood La Grande 18, Helix 25, the Legionnaire quintette last night opened up and put the game on ice for La Grande by smothering the visitors under an onslaught of real basketball playing that netted the locals 16 points while Helix gathered four points, two of them via the free throw route.

The final score was La Grande 32, Helix 29 but that's only half of it. La Grande never got going until the last quarter of the game but even during the first half, were able to lead the Helix team most of the time.

Coming from Umatilla county with a record that looked like Jack Dempsey's as far as wins go, the Helix five trounced the Union Legionnaires last night and came to La Grande ready for another victory. But it simply isn't done!

Thelston Star. To Bud Thelston, La Grande guard, goes the stellar honor. Throughout the contest Bud scored consistently and played an excellent game.

(Continued on page 8)

OREGON SOLON BACKS McNARY-HAUGEN PLAN

Representative Sinnott, of Oregon according to a Portland newspaper's Washington news bureau, told the committee that the McNary-Haugen export corporation bill was the only hope of the wheat farmers of the Pacific northwest.

He said that the \$50,000,000 livestock loan bill, which has the endorsement of the president, is practically of no value in Oregon, Washington and Idaho because diversification is out of the question in those areas of low rainfall.

Diversification, he said, was sound doctrine only in such wheat states as Minnesota and the Dakotas, where the rainfall is normal.

\$2,500 BUSINESS BUILDING TO BE ERECTED IN CITY

A building permit was issued recently to A. C. Palmer to erect a one-story frame business building on Lot 5, Block 18, in Riverside addition fronting Second Street between Benton and Lane Avenues. The preliminary estimate cost is \$2,500.

Mr. Palmer now owns a grocery store adjoining this but is erecting a larger and more modern building.

Hootch, Paregoric and Aspirin Cure Toothache

ATLANTA, Ga. (INS)—Paregoric and aspirin mixed with corn whiskey is a "sure cure for toothache," C. C. Gray told Recorder George Johnson the other day following his arrest on charges of intoxication.

"I had a terrific toothache," young Gray said. "At first I took some paregoric and aspirin, but that didn't help much. Then I took a drink of corn whiskey. The pain together went to my head and proved a perfect remedy."

After a reprimand from the court the young man was released.

17 KILLED AND 20 WOUNDED IN BAVARIA CLASH

BERLIN. (By the Associated Press)—Fighting between the Separatists and the inhabitants of Pirmasens, in the Bavarian palatinate last night, resulted in the killing of 17 persons and the wounding of 20, according to dispatches today.

The casualties occurred during fighting for the possession of the government building which was eventually set on fire.

Golden Man Uncovered In the Valley of Kings

LIXON, Egypt. (By the Associated Press)—The greatest discovery in the history of Egyptology, even many claim, in archaeology, was made Tuesday afternoon in the sepulchral chamber of Tutankhamen in the valley of the kings.

In the present of a gathering representing the light of Egyptology, the lid of Tutankhamen's great pink sarcophagus was raised and a stupendously magnificent gummy case covered with plates

of gold was brought to light. The moment was the most dramatic in the history of the dramatic discovery of Tutankhamen's tomb.

BANQUET IN EVENING IS MEET'S END

Oregon Trail Association Members Depart With Innerman Well Filled

HOSPITALITY OF CITY RECOGNIZED

After - Dinner Speakers and Musical Program Brings Annual Meeting to Triumphant Close.

Closing the Oregon Trail annual meeting with a very fine banquet served by the ladies of the Methodist church last evening, the entire occasion was voted a great success and the visitors from Oregon, Washington and Idaho departed for their homes with a very kindly feeling toward La Grande and her people.

At the banquet an orchestra opened the evening's program after 150 guests were seated. Before Dr. W. T. Pfy, the toastmaster, straightened out the driving whom the Chamber of Commerce quarter in an informal manner entered the banquet hall singing one of their popular songs. Volley after volley of heavy applause followed every selection until it looked as though the quartet would not be able to enjoy the dinner so delightfully was their music received.

Following the dinner Dr. Pfy in a few well chosen remarks told of the mission of the gathering and introduced Walter E. Meacham, president of the association, who delivered a history of the year's program.

Bruce Bonnis, of the La Grande Evening Observer spoke for the people of La Grande in expressing deep appreciation of the visit and the guests to this city, also giving the Old Oregon Trail sentiment credit for being a great power in the west.

He was followed by Irving Vining, president of the State Chamber of Commerce, in a speech that sparkled with oratorical richness showing plainly the ability of the speaker who at one time was instructor of oratory in an eastern college, but who now lives in Ashland, Oregon. Mr. Vining paid many high tributes to the city and then dwelt most eloquently upon Oregon's natural beauty and the way to market it to the world.

Marshall Dana, special writer for the Portland Journal, spoke to the banqueters on the sentimental side of life and the sentiment of the Old Oregon Trail. Mr. Dana delivered a very forceful address.

AMERICAN LEGION DANCE TO BE IN ZUBER HALL TONIGHT

The "La Societe des 46 Hommes et 8 Chevaux" of the American Legion in La Grande, will hold a "Lucky 13th" dance this evening in Zuber hall. The proceeds will be used for the benefit of the American Legion drum corps.

LOCAL CLAIMS ARE UPHELD

La Grande's Victory Over Pendleton High Upheld by National Basketball Authority.

"There is no question but that you won."

So says C. L. Parsons, a member of the advisory committee of the National Collegiate Athletic association with specific duties relative to basketball rules interpretations.

In a telegram sent L. C. MacFavish today concerning the Pendleton-La Grande game played at Pendleton last Friday night.

Parson's telegram in detail follows:

"Case rests on whether the referee called the foul after time was up. From your letter would judge that foul was called after game was over. As fouls do not show on scorebook there is no question but that you won. Looks like the referee put something over on you after the game was called."—Signed C. L. Parsons.

Which merely makes absolutely positive La Grande's victory over the Pendleton high school basketball team and likewise puts Berce Myler, of Walla Walla, Washington in a rather bad light.

Politics

J. Leo Stack, of Denver, Said Teapot Lease Planned Early

DRAINAGE DANGER IS POINTED OUT

"Common Talk Among Oil Men That Reserve Was Being Drained in 1920," Says Stack.

OIL LEASE AGREEMENT DISCLOSED

WASHINGTON. (By the Associated Press)—J. Leo Stack, Denver oil man, testified today before the Senate oil committee that the Pioneer Oil company officials told him confidentially a week before the Teapot Dome was leased that Harry F. Sinclair was to get the lease.

Stack, who testified yesterday, was cross-examined today by Chairman Lenroot. Stack emphasized the danger of drainage of the Teapot Dome by wells which would be opened on land surrounding the naval reserve under action which the interior department had taken in 1920 when the rights to operate on such lands had been sold at public auction.

"In 1920 it was common talk among oil men that the reserve was being drained," Stack said.

WASHINGTON. (AP)—A prediction that public opinion will force President Coolidge to remove every official connected with the oil reserve leases was made today by Senator Hobbins, Democratic leader, replying to the president's refusal to accept the Senate's advice and immediately ask for Denby's resignation.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Earl C. Schuyler, Denver attorney, telegraphed Sen. Walsh today that he has correspondence which he thought the Senate oil committee should have. Walsh said he would be summoned.

At the same time Walsh received a telegram from D. F. Stackelbeck, of the Denver Post, saying he had good reason to believe the correspondence in Schuyler's possession was "sensational."

WASHINGTON. (AP)—An organized fight in the senate against confirmation of Bliss H. Strawn

(Continued on page 4)

PENDLETON GIRLS TO MEET L. H. S. SEXTETTE FRIDAY

The Pendleton high school girls, who defeated the La Grande girls last Friday night at Pendleton 66 to 16, will meet the La Grande sextette of the local gymnasium floor Friday evening, according to announcements today.

The locals, under Coach Mina Murchison, are practicing diligently and are hopeful of giving the Pendletonians a close run for their money.

Announcement of officials and other details of the contest are lacking.

CARTER QUILTS LUXOR WORKS

LUXOR. (By the Associated Press)—Howard Carter announced today that because of disquietude of the Egyptian public works department in refusing permission to the wives of the excavators to visit the tomb, he had closed Tutankhamen's tomb and abandoned operations.

Late News Flashes

JOHNSTON DENIES STATEMENT.

ST. LOUIS (AP)—William H. Johnston, president of the International Association of Machinists today denied responsibility for the statement reported to have come from him that William G. McAdoo's association with Doheny oil interests made his availability as a presidential candidate doubtful. Johnston is president of the national conference for progressive political action which has been in session here.

INQUIRY ASKED.

WASHINGTON (AP)—An inquiry into charges of fraudulent land operations in Texas was ordered today by the senate in adopting a resolution by Heflin, Democrat, of Alabama.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS SEVERED.

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States today severed diplomatic relations with Honduras because of the failure of three political factions in Honduras to reach an agreement to restore a constitutional government peaceably.

NORWAY RECOGNIZES RUSSIA.

MOSCOW (AP)—Norway has given the Russian soviet government recognition de jure, the foreign office was informed today.