

CITY EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

The Weather Portland, (AP)—Oregon—Rain in the west, cloudy east portion tonight and Sunday. Warmer tonight.

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LA GRANDE, OREGON, SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1924.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBER 129

CURTIS DENIAL IS SWEEPING

WOOD WILL TESTIFY IN OIL INQUIRY

Son of Filipino Governor General Drawn Into Quiz List

PROBE CABINET APPOINTMENT

Subpoena Issued by Senate Committee Investigating Daugherty Calling Wood to Stand.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—The Senate committee investigating Daugherty today issued a subpoena for Leonard Wood, Jr., to question him regarding the story that the deal involving the cabinet appointment was proposed by oil interests at the Republican convention in Chicago.

WASHINGTON, (AP)—Discussing here Friday night the statement in which he said he was told while attending the 1923 republican convention, the late Mr. Hamilton had approached his father with an offer conditional on the former's appointment as secretary of the interior, Leonard Wood, Jr., said he had no knowledge of any details of the offer that may have involved any oil consideration.

Asks Interior Post.—"When I said certain oil interests had made the offer which I believe had my father accepted, would have given him the nomination," Mr. Wood said, "I simply meant the personal interests of Mr. Hamilton, who was of course in a large way interested in oil. I was told that Mr. Hamilton had approached my father with an offer during an adjournment of the con-

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FOUR SEEKING COUNTY JOB

The officers of county commissioners were to be the most sought-after job in this county. Since J. F. Hutchinson of Union, incumbent, signified his intentions to avoid seeking re-election, many others have either entered the race or else signified their intentions.

W. J. Kerner of North Powder, and W. W. Stevens of Union, were the first two to announce their candidacy.

Union wants a position on the county court beyond any question as it is evidenced not only by the announcement of Mr. Stevens' candidacy, but also by the fact that Jacob Kohler, a farmer who lives a few miles east of Union, has made verbal announcement of his candidacy on the Republican ticket and also that friends of J. E. Jones, a Democrat of Union, are trying to entice his entering the race.

To date three Republicans and one Democrat are either in the race or considering it—which is ample evidence that the position will not be determined without several campaigning.

Taxpayers Warned To File Income Returns

PORTLAND, Ore. (Special)—With only six days remaining in which to file income returns, taxpayers are warned against delay in forwarding their returns to Collectors of Internal Revenue, announced Charles G. Humber, collector of internal revenue today. "Comparison of the number of returns filed during the month of January and February with those filed during the corresponding period of 1923 shows a decided decrease. This, no doubt, is in part attributable to the desire of taxpayers to take full advantage of the proposed reduction and especially of the 25 per cent reduction in income tax for the year 1924. However, the tax on income for the year 1923 is being collected under the Revenue Act of 1921,

McNary Gets Credit For Bill Report

Oregon Solon Instrumental in Securing Report of Wheat Export Measure.

Another milestone in the march toward better prices for wheat was marked this week by the favorable report of the McNary-Haugen export corporation bill by the senate committee on agriculture. The committee had considered the bill for more than a month, together with other proposed farm measures, and had heard nearly fifty witnesses from the wheat producing sections of Pacific coast and central western states. The selection of the bill for favorable action by the senate committee is expected to be followed soon by similar action on the part of the house committee on agriculture. The report for the senate committee was made by Charles L. McNary, senator for Oregon, and a co-author of the bill. Senator McNary accompanied the report with an exhaustive survey of conditions in agricultural regions, pointing the imperative need for immediate remedial measures.

His activity in support of the measure has been highly commended by representatives of agricultural interests now in Washington, including George C. Jewett, general manager of the American Wheat Growers Association, who attributes solely to Senator McNary's activity the speed with which the bill was reported.

Wallace Endorses Bill.—WASHINGTON, (Special)—Senator McNary Friday received from Senator Wallace of the department of agriculture a strong letter of indorsement for the senator's bill to authorize the secretary of agriculture to draft regulations for export and other agricultural shipping companies and to make settlements of disputes. The bill is now before the senate committee on agriculture and with this support of the department of agriculture will probably be reported favorably to the senate in a short time.

UMATILLA TEAMS SURVIVE FIRST TOURNEY ROUND

PENDLETON, Ore. (By the Associated Press)—Umatilla county basketball teams came off with flying colors in the initial round of the district basketball tournament for four counties, Umatilla, Wheeler, Gilliam and Morrow. In the first game Echo defeated Hardman 29-18. The second tilt saw Hermon train lose 24-20 while in the third tilt Pilot Rock bested the Pines by a 27-21 score. The semi-finals start tonight with the preliminary round ending this afternoon. The final tilt to decide who goes to Salem will be played Saturday night.

Baker Business Men For Tourist Park Tax

BAKER, Ore. (Special)—The endorsement of the move on certain taxes by Baker to provide for a 1924 tax on private camp grounds received the favorable action of the Baker county Chamber of Commerce here Thursday. Whether or not the city officials will act on it favorably is uncertain.

Bruce Dennis of La Grande, and editor of the La Grande Observer, asked that Baker give its support to the movement to make Wallowa lake region an advertised scenic spot of America.

Prentiss Brown Quits As Baker School Head

BAKER, Ore. (Special)—Prentiss Brown, superintendent of the Baker School for the past two years, has resigned his position effective at the termination of the present school year. Mr. Brown feels the need of larger fields of endeavor and has firmly decided to make the change despite all efforts of the local school board to keep him.

Traffic Violators Fined.—Justice of the Peace Hugh Brady fined H. N. Bostwick, of Baker, \$15 and costs for speeding on the highway and P. N. Marks, of La Grande, paid \$15 and costs for switching license plates.

CLOSE VOTE OUSTS CASH BONDS PLAN

Ways and Means Committee Votes 13 to 12 Against Cash Pay

LIFE INSURANCE LIMIT FAVORED

House Board Decides to Limit Payments to Paid Up Life Insurance, Is Report.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—A proposal to make full cash payments on option in the soldiers bonus bill was voted down today by the house ways and means committee, which decided to limit the payments to paid up life insurance. The vote was 13 to 12.

TEMPLIN AND TOOZE GUILTY

McMINNVILLE, Ore. (Special)—Walter L. Tooze, Jr., was indicted Friday by the Yamhill county grand jury on a charge of possession of liquor and immediately ordered a plea of guilty before Circuit Judge Packer, Portland, who was sitting here. He will be sentenced at 3 P. M. Monday.

J. W. Templin, McMinnville garage man, also was indicted on a liquor charge, pleaded guilty and will be sentenced Monday.

Mr. Tooze will not be a candidate for the republican state chairmanship when the state committee meets within a month to make its election. He announced before the indictment was returned that he would not be a candidate for reelection.

DR. SHORT WILL SPEAK HERE ON WEDNESDAY EVE

Dr. Francis Burgette Short will address the Union county chamber of commerce Wednesday evening at 8:30 o'clock in the First Presbyterian church.

Supper will be served and reservations should be made early with Carl C. Reynolds, secretary of the club.

FIRPO KAYOES CHAMPION OF ITALY IN 14TH

BENEGAS AIRER (AP)—Luis Firpo here Friday night knocked out Emilio Staffa, the Italian heavyweight champion in the fourteenth round of what was to have been a 15 round bout.

SPENCE CALLS WHEAT MEETING AT PENDLETON

PORTLAND, Ore. (Special)—C. E. Spence, state market agent, has called a hearing on federal grades of wheat, which will be the morning of Tuesday, March 18. The meeting will be at the courthouse and all wheat growers, dealers and other interested are requested to attend. Dr. H. C. Taylor and H. J. Bosley, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, will be present.

Daugherty Upholds Rail Injunctions

Attorney General Bares Letters Bearing on 1922 Railway Strike.

(By Robert S. Thornburgh) WASHINGTON, (U. S. N. S.)—The Government of injunctions to quell alleged lawless disturbances and to compel obedience to law has been vindicated completely by Attorney General Harry M. Daugherty declared today when he made public a great volume of correspondence relative to the railroad workers' strike of 1922. Thousands of letters and telegrams exchanged by the late President Harding, the Attorney General, other Department of Justice officials, United States Marshals, Federal agents and railway executives and labor chiefs were given out pursuant to a resolution adopted by the United States March 2, 1923, authorizing their publication. Pointing out that the final decree on the rail injunctions entered July 12, 1923, "is substantially the same in all respects as that of the temporary restraining order entered September 1, 1922," the Attorney General said: "The case was commenced and the prosecution expedited and concluded in approximately ten months. The time has expired without an appeal being taken from the final decree by the defendants. "The strength and effectiveness of the several injunction decrees are a complete vindication of the use by the Government of the civil process of its courts to quell lawless disorders and to compel obedience to its laws. "Daugherty made public a number of letters he had written to President Harding indicating conditions throughout the country relative to the strike. They referred chiefly to killing, dynamiting and other lawlessness reported to the Department of Justice. On September 14, 1922, Daugherty sent President Harding, from Chicago, copies of the Federal court order in the injunction case and that of the Eugene V. Debs action of 1894. He pointed out to the President that there was little difference between the two orders.

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200 GATHER TODAY FOR FARM MEET

Second Day of County Agriculture Economic Conference on

SPECIAL GROUPS MEET IN MORNING

Dairymen, Poultrymen, Grain and Hay Raisers, Stockmen and Others Discuss Problems.

Approximately 200 farmers, dairymen, poultrymen, stockmen, crop specialists, agriculture agents and farm specialists of all kinds are in session at the high school building here today in the second day of the Union county agriculture economic conference which opened at Union yesterday.

The conference here opened this morning with a general session in the high school auditorium after which the various commodity groups, under their leaders, retired to assigned rooms where round table discussions were held on subjects of interest to each group dealing with problems of all phases of the farm and produce.

The subject of the commodity meetings is not only to discuss problems but also to secure accurate inventory and to give recommendations for each group and for agriculture as a whole.

The chairman of the groups here are local Union county men who are helped and advised by specialists from the O. A. C. Extension Service. Each agriculturist in attendance participates in the open discussion of the group dealing with the particular branch of farming in which he is most interested.

The subjects dealt with by the various groups and their leaders are as follows: J. D. Dolbin, chairman of crops; Doctor Phy of Hol Lake, chairman of the dairy section; H. H. Weatherston, horticulturist; S. E. Miller, of Union, chairman of the livestock department; W. B. Dickens, chairman of the poultry section.

These various groups will give their recommendations before the afternoon session.

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Seniors Score Success In Presentation Of Mystery Drama Of "Baldpate Inn"

Full House Is Delighted With Comedy—Thrills Come Thick and Fast.

When George M. Cohen took the novel written by Earl Der Biggers and from it gave birth to the stage drama "Seven Keys to Baldpate" he scored a distinct success. When the Senior class of the La Grande high school took the drama and presented it last evening to a large La Grande audience in the high school auditorium, they scored just as big a success in proportion.

Miss Mabel A. Bennett spent many weeks drilling the cast and the nearly flawless presentation last evening not only reflected credit upon the members of the Senior class who participated but it also resulted in much credit directed to her efforts. Miss Bennett has directed many plays in the past but it might be said that the "Baldpate Inn" triumph surpassed prior productions.

Well Acted.—To pick out those who played stellar roles is a difficult task, but a few, who either excelled in their parts or who were fortunate in securing a part relative to the special appeal, may be mentioned.

Floyd Coolidge, as the hermit, Benjamin Darland, as Lou Max, Francis Snodgrass, as Elijah Quimby, and Garnet Bowers, as Myra Thornhill all played their respective parts to perfection.

The cast, as a whole and individually, lived their various parts in a manner that made an immediate appeal with the audience and the "Seven Keys to Baldpate" will long be remembered as one of the best presentations produced by amateur actors and actresses.

Plot Thriller.—To give the plot would be to "take away the 'kick' that the audience tonight will receive. In the last act when the climax arrives and that would not be "playing fair." But for thrills, unexpected situations, and real interest, the story is hard to excel.

Outfitted with the only "key in existence" to Baldpate Inn. Then imagine all seven keys being used the same evening. Between the

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LEGIONNAIRES MEET IN BAKER

BAKER, Ore. (Special)—With only a one-day session, yet a fruitful day, the annual district conference of the American Legion posts comprising six eastern Oregon counties convened in this city yesterday. About forty delegates from outside posts, joined by Fred E. Kiddle, state department commander, Harold Warner, district commander and Harry Nelson, state department adjutant, with members of the local post were present yesterday afternoon at the business session held at the city hall.

Local officers declared the session one of the best in quality if not in quantity that had ever been held in Baker, and thus they brought another epochal milestone.

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Ex-La Grande Man Is Made Phoenix City Dad

Fred Jacobs, formerly of La Grande, has been elected a city commissioner in Phoenix, Arizona, according to word received here by friends of Mr. Jacobs. In the election Mr. Jacobs polled the largest number of votes of any commissioner candidates.

He was a resident of La Grande about ten years ago at which time he was in the mercantile business.

Guard Men Visit Here.—General George A. White, and Major Edward Van Horn, of the Oregon National Guard, were visitors in La Grande today following attending the Legion meeting at Baker yesterday. They accompanied by Ralph Baron of this city, will also attend the meeting in Pendleton tonight.

The officers are of the opinion that both La Grande and Baker will be able to secure a national guard unit. Work to that end will be intensive during the coming week. Ontario, Ore., has 80 men signed up but will be unable to get the guard unless either Baker or La Grande falls down, due to prior allotments.

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BENNETT IS CALLED ON STAND AGAIN

Newspaperman Sticks to His Testimony Regarding Senator Curtis

STANFIELD TAKES PART IN INQUIRY

Bennett Tells the Oregon Senator That Discussion Had "Political Relationship" to Oil Probe

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Senator Curtis, of Kansas, assistant Republican leader, in the Senate today before the oil committee, repeated a statement he issued yesterday to refute Bennett's testimony that he was the "principal" referred to in the McLean telegram.

Later Bennett testified that Senator Curtis had advised President Coolidge immediately after he came into office to ask Daugherty to resign.

Curtis again took the stand and said he told the president in December he would have to look for a new attorney general as Daugherty was sick.

Emphatic Denial.—Curtis declared emphatically in the course of his second session on the stand that he never talked to Bennett (as Bennett had claimed) as to the conduct of the Washington Post in the oil case "either directly or indirectly."

While Bennett was under the interrogation, Stanfield, of Oregon, took a hand in the questioning by asking if the matter under discussion was relevant and Bennett said it had "political relationship" to the inquiry.

The committee voted to direct Bennett to answer and he said that conversation with Curtis had dealt with the policy of the Washington

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WHEAT TARIFF IS INCREASED

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—An increase of 12 cents a bushel in the tariff rates on wheat was ordered late Friday by President Coolidge.

Acting under a flexible provision of the tariff act and on the basis of the tariff commission's recent inquiry, the president at the same time ordered an increase of 28 cents a hundred pounds on the duty of wheat flour and a decrease of 500 per cent in the ad valorem rate on mill feeds.

The new rate on wheat will be 42 cents per bushel as compared with the present rate of 30 cents. The new rate on flour will be \$1.94 as compared with 75 cents per 100 pounds and the rate on mill feed will be 2.1-2 per cent ad valorem as against 15 per cent.

The new rate as ordered by the president and set forth in a formal proclamation will become effective in 30 days.

Present Methods Said Crude--Reforms Urged

NEW YORK (INS)—Demand for drastic reforms in the administration of the federal income tax laws, supported by a retort of alleged abuses ascribed to the lack of more competent men in the bureau of internal revenue, to a policy of secrecy in thousands of rulings and to irritation to business interests in forcing bankruptcies and the loss of millions of dollars, are made in a report issued today by the national industrial conference board for the information of congress and the public.

The report was prepared by a committee of leading business men and economists, and is the culmination of several months of special study of the federal system of tax administration. This study, the report asserts, has revealed conditions which have "so antagonized some taxpayers that they are led to indulge in similar tactics of delay and opposition which under other circumstances they would have hesitated to adopt." The report is to be widely circulated among leading industrialists immediately.

Appointment of a congressional commission to investigate the abuses complained of is demanded in the report. Stress is laid upon the fact, as first developed by the conference board in advance of the Mellon plan last fall, that the nation's tax bill still eats up one-eighth of the income received by every man, woman and child in America, and that it has doubled in the last ten years.

Raps Tax Sharks.—The practice of officials of the government having federal servants and becoming "tax experts" to "prey upon taxpayers largely as a result of conditions which