

CITY
EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER

PORTLAND (AP)—Fair
and continued cold in Ore-
gon tonight and Tuesday.

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Hunt's
Daily
Letter

(By HARRY B. HUNT)
WASHINGTON (NEA Special).—The Porto Rico protest committee, in Washington, doesn't show much joy ahead this yuletide for folk down in that strife-filled island, but wishes all the joys of the season to the people of the United States, particularly and specifically to members of congress.

Their woes and best wishes are set forth in the following unique phrasing, on what is admittedly the queerest "Christmas card" ever received by senators and representatives:

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
From the People of Porto Rico.

The Porto Rican elections, held Nov. 4, 1924, are the greatest outrage upon American citizenship ever committed.

FRAUD, VIOLENCE, CORRUPTION, WHOLESALE ROBBERY!

When the time comes and all the facts are laid before you, please help to right the wrong.

Closely clipped mustaches have become as much the fad among senators with hirsute upper lips as bobbed heads are with flappers.

The latest diktat to fall for the "soup-strainer bob" is no other than the president of the senate, Albert B. Cummins of Iowa.

Cummins used to sport a sweeping mustache of the "buckhorn" or long-and-sweeping sort, which was exceeded in fierceness only by the Rocky Mountain goat variety formerly flaunted by Tom Walsh of Montana.

Walsh, however, listened to the lure of his barber last winter and had his trimmed. One stroke of the shears changed Tom's appearance from that of a "hick" lawyer from the "sticks" to that of a severe and sophisticated legal luminary from some metropolitan center.

And the similar trim now undergone by Cummins cut about 10 years off his age.

Warren, the war horse from Wyoming, is the only senator still supporting a full-sized, he-man mustache reminiscent of the days of mustache cups and paper collars.

Among the sights of interest to

(Continued on Page 2.)

TEACHERS IN
ANNUAL MEET

PORTLAND, Ore. (By the Associated Press).—Teachers of Oregon gathered here today for their annual convention. President Thomas W. Buehler, of the Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia, Kan., Miss Mabel Carney, of the Teachers College of Columbia University, New York, and Miss Olive M. Jones, former president of the National Education Association, are among the prominent educators on the program. They are to speak tomorrow, today's sessions being devoted principally to organization matters. There will be general assemblies Tuesday morning and Wednesday afternoon. Departmental meetings will occupy the rest of the time of the convention.

POLLARD WILL
TALK OF XMAS
TUESDAY NOON

A Christmas address will be delivered at the chamber of commerce luncheon tomorrow by Raymond G. A. Pollard, general arrangements for the luncheon are being made by Doctor W. P. Mossman who will also act as chairman.

Among other things on the program will be a group of songs by the Neighborhood club and a mixed chorus of 10 voices.

The luncheon will commence at the regular hour of five minutes after 12 o'clock and will be concluded at one sharp in order to give business men an opportunity to return to their work.

A special invitation is extended by Earl Reynolds, secretary, to all college students to attend the luncheon. Tickets may be obtained at his office any time before the luncheon hour.

Santa Will Come Here;
Cold Won't Stop Him

(By SANTA CLAUS)
NORTH POLE, Arctic Circle.—(Special to the Observer).—I have heard, during the past two or three days, that children in Eastern and Western Oregon are fearful that the extremely cold weather will keep me from making my annual Christmas visit to each home and I want to take this opportunity to state that there is nothing whatever truthful about these reports.

Boys and girls, I will be there, if you haven't a chimney for me to climb down through I can find

MAIL PILOT
PLUNGES TO
HIS DEATH

Aviator, Lost in Storm, Is Killed When Plane Became Uncontrollable

JUMPED FREE BUT
PARACHUTE FAILED

Charles Gilbert's Death First Fatality Since Inauguration of Airmail Service.

AURORA, Ill. (By the Associated Press).—The body of Charles Gilbert, United States airmail pilot, who was lost last night in a snowstorm over Kaneville, Illinois, while en route to Omaha, was found today half a mile from his wrecked plane.

He had apparently leaped from the plane with his parachute, but it was torn from him in the downward rush.

Pieces of the parachute were still held by a belt around Gilbert's body.

FIRST FATAL ACCIDENT
OMAHA, (By the Associated Press).—Charles Gilbert, 26, entered the mail service August 16, 1924, according to airmail officials. Gilbert's death was the first serious accident since the starting of night and day transcontinental airmail service, the officials said.

SALVATION ARMY
WILL DISTRIBUTE
BOXES WEDNESDAY

The Salvation Army is making preparations to take out its annual Christmas boxes to the poorer families of this city. The boxes will be distributed Wednesday.

The adjutant has a large list of needy families this year and he is depending upon the public to be generous with its contributions, he stated today, so that he may be able to supply the deserving ones.

The Salvation Army is also planning a Christmas program and tree for the poor children of the city on Friday night at 7:30 p. m.

GERMANY ARMING;
EVACUATION WILL
NOT COME SOON

PARIS (By the Associated Press).—The chances of the Cologne area being evacuated by the allies January 10th, under the provision of the Versailles treaty, have diminished. It is thought in French official circles, by the regular semi-monthly report of the Allied Military Control mission in Germany.

This report is understood to confirm reports that Germany was persisting in arming, contrary to the treaty provisions.

WILLARD HAND
TALK OF XMAS
TUESDAY NOON

Funeral services of Willard Hand, who died here Saturday morning, were held at the Bohlenkamp chapel yesterday afternoon under the auspices of the local Masonic lodge.

Mr. Hand is survived by a widow, a resident of Weiser, and a brother, E. R. Hand, of Portland. The remains will be shipped to Portland for cremation.

COUPLE WED 61 YEARS

OREGON CITY, Ore. (By the Associated Press).—Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Sawyer of this city celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary at their home on Sixth and Washington streets. Many messages of congratulation and gifts from afar, as well as from their home friends, found their way to the Sawyers home during the day.

One of the pleasant surprises was played by some of the Sawyers' close friends here, who called in a body and spent the afternoon. The day also was the 57th birthday anniversary of Mrs. Sawyer.

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A Rival!



He is the Washington monument's only rival, Thomas E. Lynch, of Washington, D. C., is the world's tallest taxi driver. He is seven feet, four inches high and when he writes out receipts for his fares he uses the top of his car for a desk.

HEASTY LOSES
\$40 IN HOLDUP

"The didn't even ask him to 'stick 'em up,' but they jammed with \$40 in bills—and left \$40 in silver," stated Chief of Police Clint Haynes.

That is a very brief description of the holdup at the La Grande filling station Saturday evening about 6:30 o'clock. Two men, masked, entered the station and flushing a couple of guns, directed J. E. Heasty to give them the money. He asked them to leave some change and they did—\$49 worth.

After taking the money, the men ran across the street and disappeared.

Mr. Heasty was unarmed.

NAME POLLMAN
NEW DIRECTOR

BAKER, Ore. (Special).—William Pollman, member of this city, has been appointed director of the federal reserve bank at Portland.

Mr. Pollman received the following telegram, notifying him of his appointment:

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 19.—(William Pollman, Baker).—I have the honor to inform you that at today's meeting the board of directors of this bank appointed you a director of its Portland branch for a term of three years, effective January first. I sincerely trust that you will accept this important duty and find the work congenial. Please wire your acceptance earliest—John Perlin, Chairman of the board.

Mr. Pollman replied as follows: Baker, Ore., Dec. 19.—(To John Perlin, Chairman of Board Federal Reserve Bank, San Francisco, Cal.). Will be pleased to accept appointment Director Federal Reserve Branch at Portland, Oregon. Wm. Pollman.

WOMEN SET FREE

BAKER, Ore. (Special).—Two women, Mrs. A. H. Rivington and Mrs. L. R. Rivington, arrested in La Grande on suspicion of having been connected with robberies early in December, have been released.

According to Sheriff George Herbert, insufficient evidence has been revealed to prosecute them.

Victims Of
Tragic Fire
Laid to Rest

Services Held at St. Peter's Church Yesterday Afternoon; Interment in Masonic Cemetery.

Sorrowing friends filled St. Peter's church Sunday afternoon to pay their last respects to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Church, whose lives were taken Friday morning of last week when their residence burned.

Rev. Mr. Cressy, rector of St. Peter's, conducted the impressive ceremony. The two caskets were banked with flowers placed there by loving hands. Following the Episcopal church burial service the church choir sang an anthem and the rector pronounced the scriptural lessons which assure life beyond the grave.

During the life of Mrs. Church she had expressed a great admiration for the song, "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere," which rendered by Sherwood Williams. Yesterday at the funeral Mr. Williams sang the selection. Kathleen Campbell, choir director and soloist at St. Peter's church, sang "Crossing the Bar."

Fraternities in Charge.

When the church service was completed the Masonic order conducted its ritualistic service for the dead with R. Ringo, Worshipful Master, in charge.

The Masonic order and the La Grande lodge of R. F. O. 12, attended the funeral in honorary bodies.

At the ceremony brief Masonic service was held over the grave in which the bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Church were buried.

The pall bearers were: Masonic—Archie Bacon, Edward Holmes, C. K. McCormick, Harris French, J. E. Reynolds, George Hopkins, Elka—Albert R. Hunter, William Siegart, Charles Playle, F. S. Ivant, Merton Kiddle and H. E. Coulidge.

JUROR WINKS
AT PRISONER

MOUNT VERNON, Ill. (By the Associated Press).—Christmas Eve and the close of the trial of Lawrence M. Hight and Elsie Sweeth, charged with the murder of Mrs. Sweeth's husband, will arrive simultaneously, according to present plans.

The conclusion of Hight's defense testimony is expected today, arguments Tuesday and the verdict Wednesday.

Reports from court room attaches say that one of the jurors winked at Mrs. Sweeth several times during the trial. This has worried the prosecution, it is declared.

Baker Man Tells
Of "Copper Belt"

On visit to Portland, D. W. C. Nelson, of Baker, tells of copper developments there in an interview to the Observer.

The article reads:

"Proper development of the copper region of eastern Oregon—a belt known to be from 10 to 15 miles in width and 100 miles in length—will make Baker one of the world's greatest mining centers. D. W. C. Nelson, mining engineer of that city declared at the Multnomah hotel yesterday. The belt also contains vast deposits of gold, silver, zinc and lead. Mr. Nelson added, and in the future mines can be expected to produce various ores totalling millions of dollars. Origin of the belt, the engineer explained, has been found on the red ledge, Snake river, from where it has been traced to Homestead through the Iron Dyke mine, on between Cornucopia and Halfway in Pine Valley, across Eagle and Gine creeks and thence to the Portman, Copper Butte and North American mining claims."

Have You
Forgotten
Anyone?

Christmas shopping may be a hard job sometimes—but if you get through without forgetting someone important, it's lots of fun at that.

Check over your list and take full advantage of these last two days. Read the last-minute gift suggestions in The Observer and—then end up in a hurry for a Merry Christmas!

"Observer Advertising—A Merchandising Service"

BAD WHISKY
TOLL UP TO
THIRTY-SIX

New York Reports Hundreds of Cases of Illness from "Booze"

JOHN RYAN, SONG
WRITER, VICTIM

Officials Fear That Death Total Will Mount Steadily During Holidays.

NEW YORK (AP Press Time Flash).—Nicola Piscent died today bringing the total deaths to thirty-six.

NEW YORK (By the Associated Press).—John A. Ryan, song writer, is the latest victim of alcoholic poisoning, which has caused 35 deaths here this month.

Twenty-one persons suffering from alcoholism were admitted to Bellevue hospital during the last 24 hours. Bellevue patients now suffering from bad liquor number over 100, one fourth of whom face death or blindness.

Poison holiday liquor, indirectly or directly has caused the deaths in New York city, the city's chief medical examiner, Charles Norris reports.

A special detail of police detectives have been unable to trace the poison liquor.

City authorities fear that the alcoholic death toll will mount steadily throughout the Christmas and New Year festivities.

The lower east side was said to have been literally flooded with poisonous concoctions labelled "whiskey."

POST-ELECTION
BOOM OF STOCKS
IN EIGHT WEEK

NEW YORK (By the Associated Press).—The post-election boom in stock prices, which today enters the eighth consecutive week, has added billions to the quoted value of securities.

The total sales since election day have been approximately 75,000,000 shares, an unprecedented record of heavy trading.

Average leading industrial stocks have been elevated to the highest levels since the post-war boom in 1919.

W. F. GEKELER
PASSES AWAY

W. F. Gekeler, a pioneer of the Grande Ronde valley died suddenly this morning at his home in West Portland. At the time Mr. Gekeler and his wife were preparing to take a trip to La Grande to spend the holidays with their children.

Mr. Gekeler was born in 1861 and was brought to the Grande Ronde valley at the time he was one year old. He lived in and about the valley until two years ago at which time he moved to Portland.

He was married to Edith Carter 42 years ago. Mr. Gekeler is survived by his wife, three sons, Roy Gekeler, Ben Gekeler, Kenneth Gekeler, two daughters, Josephine Gekeler and Katherine Gekeler of La Grande and six grandchildren.

No funeral arrangements have been made.

Winter Weather Makes
Westbound Train Late

Despite the fact that sub-zero weather in La Grande has come to an end, temporarily at least, the west bound train continue to be late, owing to bad weather further east.

Yesterday No. 17 did not arrive until after 5 o'clock in the afternoon. It is due at 7:55 a. m. Today the same train is marked up six and one-half hours late.

Trains from the west are running nearly on time.

Truck Burns Up Near
Telocast in Storm

A Pacific Fruit truck burned up three or four miles this side of Telocast, according to reports received here. Joe Reynolds, the driver, stated that the wind and snow prevented a clear view of the highway, resulting in the accident that ended in the burning of the car. No one was injured.

Fifty-six cases of oranges were destroyed.

Now Happily Married



MR. AND MRS. HENRY HINKLEY
In Billings, Montana, Evelyn Kendall Moy, 18, loved Henry E. Hinkley and Hinkley loved her. She was the daughter of a Chinese doctor and his white wife—so it was said—and that made it difficult. But suddenly her foster parents confessed to her that she really and truly is a white girl. Now Mr. and Mrs. Hinkley are honeymooning. (The bride is heiress of \$50,000; and she speaks 17 Chinese dialects).

NO SUICIDE, IS
JURY VERDICT

The coroner's jury acting on the case of Cloyd Simmons who was found dead Saturday morning from a fall from the second story of the Bayview hotel returned a verdict of accidental death. The portion of the verdict directly bearing on the circumstances of the death reads as follows: "It is our belief that he (Cloyd Simmons) was sick and got from his bed, opened the window, leaned out for air, slipped and fell on the sidewalk below, breaking his neck."

At the inquest held by Coroner Hal Bohlenkamp this morning at the Bohlenkamp chapel, it was brought out that, according to the evidence no foul play could have been possible as the door of Simmons' room was bolted from the inside.

The coroner's jury was composed of Ernest Watkins, B. A. Bonham, Claude Scranston, Jess Andrews, J. A. Arbuckle and Adolph Kewlin.

The remains will be shipped to Combs, Arkansas for interment, probably next Wednesday. Mr. and Mrs. John Heath, Simmons' sister and her husband and Garfield Simmons, a cousin will go east for the funeral.

J. N. TEAL AGAIN
HEADS UMATILLA
RAPIDS GROUP

PENDLETON, Ore. (By the Associated Press).—J. N. Teal of Portland was re-elected president of the Umatilla Rapids association Saturday in the annual convention here. Delegates from Idaho, Oregon and Washington were in attendance. The report of a committee named to study the report of the government engineers as to the feasibility of the project was given by B. B. Aldrich, chairman, and urged a continuance of the investigations, calling attention to the fact that in the opinion of the committee there were a number of points given insufficient consideration by the government report.

Mrs. Gompers Retains
Lawyer to Protect Her

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press).—Mrs. Gertrude Gompers, widow of Samuel Gompers, has retained an attorney to protect her rights in the settlement of the Gompers estate.

She has not indicated whether she will contest the will which left her only the minimum allowed by law.

BERKELEY WINS
BARKERFIELD

BERKELEYFIELD, Cal. (By the Associated Press).—In one of the hardest fought games ever played on Griffiths field here Berkeley Saturday defeated Bakerfield 5 to 0 for the state high school football championship.

75 MILLIONS
SPENT UPON
STATE ROADS

Oregon Highway Commission Report Is Tendered Today

AMOUNT EXCLUDES
MARKET ROAD FUND

State Furnished Greater Share of Total with Counties Second and Government Third.

SALEM, Ore. (By the Associated Press).—Gross expenditures of the state highway department since its inception in 1917, have been \$75,856,012.31, not including market road funds, according to the biennial report of the department issued today.

Of the total, \$10,532,931.82 have been county funds; \$7,384,369.89 government funds; \$221,257 railroad funds and the remainder state funds.

Of the state funds, \$7,542,237.73 have been used in payment of principal and interest on bonded indebtedness.

COLD WAVE IS
AT AN END HERE

Ordinary winter weather has again visited La Grande, relieving this community from the sub-zero visitation last week, which resulted in death, injuries and discomforts.

Saturday afternoon the weather did not take the usual toward zero drop and during the night the lowest mark registered was seven above. Sunday the weather was temperate and, had it not been for a stiff wind, would have been almost like spring.

Last night was colder than the previous night, the thermometer registering three degrees above.

NO RELIEF SEEN

PORTLAND, Ore. (By the Associated Press).—Oregon and Washington are not offered any substantial relief from the cold in today's weather forecast. Continued cold and a high barometer in British Columbia will keep the thermometer here well below freezing, according to the weather bureau.

The minimum here last night was 20 above. Salem reported 13 above. Eugene reported sleighing for the first time in several years, with 31 inches of snow.

Cold at Pendleton

Pendleton reported the mercury nine degrees below zero, a new low mark for the season.

U. OF O. DANCE
WILL BE GIVEN
TOMORROW EVE

The annual University of Oregon dance will be given tomorrow evening by the alumni association of La Grande in the Elks' ballroom. A cordial invitation is extended to all high school students, high school alumni, university and college students and alumni.

A feature of the dance will be the music furnished by the P-10 Pipers orchestra of Eugene. This orchestra under the leadership of Robert Moore, who also plays violin in the orchestra, has become one of the most prominent musical organizations about the U. of O. campus this fall. During their La Grande engagements the P-10 Pipers are featuring Abbie Green, a local boy, at the piano. Mr. Green has been a member of the organization for about two weeks and his many friends in this city are congratulating him on his success.

BAKER OPENS
HOOP SEASON

BAKER, Ore. (Special).—Baker high school's basketball team continued its victorious career last night when it took two games from the quintets from Haines. The first team defeated the pick of Haines by 17 to 16, while the Baker Hi freshmen took the long end of a 12 to 4 count against the Haines second team. In both contests the Baker boys had the edge on their opponents.

Xmas Services Held In
Churches Here Sunday

Christmas was fittingly ushered into the life of the community yesterday when several churches of this city held services. Among the ones that held Christmas programs were: Presbyterian, First Methodist Episcopal, Baptist church, and the Methodist Episcopal, South.

At the new Presbyterian church the morning service gathered the Christmas message into word and song. The quartet sang two beautiful selections: "Now When Jesus Was Born in Bethlehem of Judea," by Rogers and "The Night Song of Bethlehem," by Dudley Buck. The message and the music combined in telling the congregation of the birth of the Saviour. Victor De Pinto rendered a violin solo, "The Violin Maker of Cremona," by Jeno Hubay, which was exceedingly well received. With beautiful tones, with fine technique and good style Mr. De Pinto interpreted his selection in a most artistic manner. The

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