

CITY
EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER

PORTLAND (AP).—Oregon: Rain or snow. Warmer tonight and Sunday.

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Hunt's
Daily
Letter

(By Harry B. Hunt)

WASHINGTON. (NEA Special.)—Kings and presidents seldom agree. Their viewpoints, naturally, are diametrically opposed.

This, it seems, holds good whether the king occupies a throne in some foreign principality or sits as a Democratic representative in the Senate of the United States.

So we now have developing as one of the sizable fights in the short session of Congress a clash between king and president over the present status and future development of the U. S. navy.

The king in this case is William H. of Salt Lake City, Utah, a member of the Senate Naval Affairs Committee, a plain talking, straight shooting gent from the west who, like the boys from his section who still tote their six-guns on their hips, believes in "preparationness."

Unimpaired by his verbal artillery in support of the contention, heard on every hand in the Navy Department itself, that our navy isn't being maintained at the 5-5-5 ratio provided by the Harding armistice conference, King introduced a resolution calling for a joint House and Senate investigation to find out just what the facts are.

His attempt to get action on his resolution in advance of the passage of a \$110,000,000 naval bill carried over from last session, was overridden when the president of the Senate failed to recognize Jim Reed of Missouri, who was clamoring for a chance to speak and put the question which fabled King's move to reconsider the naval authorization. Debate was cut off, King and his cohorts were snatched, and the navy inquiry sidetracked, temporarily.

It was following this tactical victory by the anti-investigationists that President Coolidge let it be known that he looked with disfavor on any stirring of the waters about the navy. Such activity, he suggested, would arouse the critical interest of other nations and might involve embarrassing complications.

(Continued on Page 2.)

STATE SECOND
IN PRODUCTION

BAKER, Ore. (Special).—The lumber cut of Washington and Oregon for 1923, in accordance with statistics collected by the bureau of census in co-operation with the forest service, was the largest ever reported amounting to 10,642,729,000 feet, as announced by the district forester's office. The total number cut of the United States during 1923 was 27,195,549,000 feet, the largest since 1916.

Washington is by far the leading lumber producing state. Production of lumber, both and shingles in 1923 was 12,956,982,000 feet, an increase of 14.4 per cent as compared to 1922; both, 825,528,000, an increase of 35 per cent; shingles, 5,983,158,000, a decrease of 12 per cent. Lath production in the United States in 1923 amounted to 3,228,912,000, an increase of 13 per cent as compared to 1922; shingles, 11,629,000, a decrease of 18 per cent.

Oregon ranks second, Louisiana third, and Mississippi fourth, in number production. Lumber, both and shingles production in Oregon for 1923 was 2,956,982,000, an increase of 31.2 per cent as compared with 1922; both, 294,912,000, an increase of 43 per cent; shingles, 414,629,000, a decrease of 15 per cent.

McDONALDS IN REUNION.

SALEM. (AP).—The annual Christmas reunion of the family of the late James O. McDonald of Trail was held with Dr. Charles McDonald, who held this city as host. Last year the head of the family was living and attended the festivities held at his home in Jackson county. Only four of his nine sons were able to participate in the 1924 celebration.

La Grande Warmest Of
Eastern Oregon Towns

During the past week, La Grande, Oregon, has been the warmest place in Eastern Oregon, beyond a doubt. Some who make their homes in other cities that often boast of temperate weather in the winter, doubt the correct readings of local thermometers but there is absolutely no chance for doubt in this respect.

The readings have been made from a government thermometer, situated at the fire station in such a position that the building's warmth will not affect the measurement of the weather is made.

BUSINESS
PREDICTS
PROSPERITYYear of Plenty, Without
Precedent, Foreseen
in United StatesTAXATION SYSTEM
HELD RESPONSIBLEAmong Domestic Factors
Is the Easiness of the
Money Market and the
Huge Sums Available.

NEW YORK. (By the Associated Press).—Business during 1924 is generally summarized as fair by banking and industrial leaders. Prospects for 1925, however, are considered unusually bright, many business men echoing the sentiments expressed by President Coolidge in his annual message to Congress that "under the assurance of a reasonable system of taxation, there is every prospect for an era of prosperity of unprecedented proportions."

The prediction of further business prosperity is based on several well known facts. Settlement of the German reparations problem through the adoption of the Dawes plan is widely believed, to have removed the greatest obstacle to the economic recovery of Europe, upon whose prosperity we are more or less dependent, because of our position as a big creditor nation and an important participant in international trade.

Money is easy. Domestic factors in the easiness of the money market and the huge sums available for commercial credit. In addition most stocks of merchandise are relatively low, railroad traffic is at record levels, exports are increasing, the widespread European exchanges are at par, or heading there, several important industrial and railroad mergers are pending, the high prices received for current crops has brought prosperity back to the agricultural regions, gasoline consumption is at record high level, and an ambitious program of hydroelectric power development is under way.

Railroads enjoyed one of their best years in 1924 since their restoration to private control. Economies effected through the cutting down of operating expenses enabled many systems to increase their net income despite reductions in gross earnings. One of the most important developments of the year was the completion of plans for the gigantic Nickel Plate merger to include the Nickel Plate, Rocking Valley, Chesapeake & Ohio, Pere Marquette and Erie systems. The Southern Pacific also acquired the El Paso and Southwestern during the year, with considerable progress towards other important consolidations. The loss of the balance of power by the so-called radical bloc in the congressional elections removed the fear of adverse legislation and has enabled the roads to proceed with important consolidation and development plans. Inauguration of dividends on the common stocks of the Southern, St. Louis-San Francisco and Pere Marquette railways and the resumption of dividends on United States Steel.

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(Continued on Page 2.)

SALVATION ARMY
CHRISTMAS TREE
WELL ATTENDED

The Salvation Army Christmas entertainment, given last night in the army hall, was successful in every respect. Toys, shoes, stockings, candy, nuts and oranges were distributed to the needy ones and everyone in the hall went away happy. Several hundred people were seated.

Adjutant Peterson and his wife wish to thank the merchants of La Grande and all citizens who helped to make this Christmas a happy one.

Readings Given.

For comparison, here is the table for the past week, including Sunday.
Sunday, December 24.La Grande—Coldest during night, 2 degrees above zero.
Portland—Minimum, 20 above.
Salem—Minimum, 15 above.
Pendleton—Minimum, 8 below.

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She's Mayor



Mrs. J. H. Karr didn't want to be mayor of Edmunds, Wash., but after enough folks wrote her name in to elect her, she announced that she's going to see it through. She promises more right law enforcement.

TRUCK KILLS
GIRL BEAUTY

CHICAGO. (By the Associated Press).—Angelita Cocciello, recently picked by Rudolph Valentino from 19,000 contestants as Chicago's prettiest girl, was saved from the Potters Field last night by Mrs. Daniel J. McGarity, blind wife of a lake captain, who paid a debt of gratitude by providing a fine coffin, heaped with flowers.

Otherwise poor, Angelita was called by her friends rich in a sunny voice. That she laughed on the blind woman.

The tragedy was Angelita was killed by a truck and Mrs. McGarity found Angelita's body in the morgue where it had lain for three days unclaimed.

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