EASTERN OREGON'S LEADING NEWSPAPER—TWELVE PAGES TODAY.

CITY EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER
Portland, (AP)—Oregon: Rain in the west, cloudy in the east tonight and Thursday.

VOLUME XXIII. MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS LA GRANDE OREGON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1924. MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS NUMBER 71

Hunt's Daily Letter

(By HARRY B. HUNT)

WASHINGTON (NEA Special)—Of all the puzzling problems prohibition has brought, none causes so much difficulty here in Washington, where social affairs play so great a part in the lives of higher officialdom, as this:

Just where do social obligations leave off and official obligations begin? Or vice versa?

For if federal officials carried their official consciences with them to dinner parties and receptions it would be impossible for them to maintain the courtesies which guests must properly display toward their hosts.

Instead of sticking out the evening, joining in the gayety and good times, the official who carries his official conscience on his sleeve would be required, perforce, to call a cop and have the place pinched.

* * *

All claims of prohibition enforcement officers to the contrary notwithstanding, the fact remains that the serving of alcoholic beverages, both before and after dining, is the rule rather than the exception at the capital's social affairs.

Officials and others in the government service, sworn to uphold the constitution and the law, must either wink at the practice or become social outcasts.

If they fulfilled the full spirit of their official obligation they could do no less than become informers against their friends, whom they know to possess and serve liquors not allowed by law.

The result is that while personally they may not partake of the forbidden drinks (though that is by no means a universal rule), they wink at its possession and use by others, thereby abetting it not assisting in the violation.

* * *

Of course there is a goodly proportion of officialdom at an affair the availability of cocktails and highballs is not made too conspicuous. The good host, like the good guest, has his obligations.

At such times the liquid refreshments are served at a place apart, easily found and readily accessible to all who desire them, but not flaunted in a manner to taunt or embarrass the official with a conscience.

To think for a moment, however, that these officials are unaware of the reason for the popularity of that part of the house which they themselves do not visit, but from which other guests return refreshed and revivified, would be to credit them with a stupidity be-

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OREGON TRAIL BILL PASSED

Word received here is that Senator McNary's Old Oregon Trail bill was passed by the senate late yesterday. It gives official recognition and name to the route of the pioneers from Topeka and the Platte river, through Wyoming and Idaho into Eastern Oregon and down the Columbia to Vancouver, Portland and Seaside, with a branch to Olympia.

Senator Jones of Washington, inquired when the bill was called up if the route named is satisfactory to Ezra Meeker, the pioneer long prominent in the trail marking movement. McNary said he had no direct word from "Uncle Ezra" but was sure it was satisfactory.

The designated route of the trail in Oregon is through Ontario, Baker, La Grande, Pendleton and Umatilla and thence along the Columbia river through The Dalles, Hood River, Portland, Astoria and Seaside.

FRANCE TO MAKE GOOD DEBT TO U.S.

Official Assurance Is Received in Washington Circles Today

FEDERAL HEADS EXPRESS RELIEF

No Comments Forthcoming, However, Until Secretary Hughes Goes Through Communication.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Ambassador Herrick's report of a conversation with Premier Herriot on the France-American debt question reached the state department today and is understood to contain the first official assurance received here since the question entered its present phase that France does not intend to repudiate her obligations to America.

Pending careful scrutiny of the report by Secretary Hughes, department officials declined all comment but it was obvious they welcomed the communication because of its official and timely nature.

FAVORS DAWES PLAN

PARIS (By Associated Press)—Finance Minister Clementhal reiterating his declaration that the interpretation of his balance sheet as a suggestion for repudiation of France's obligations was absolutely erroneous, declared today that the principle of capacity for payment as applied to settlement with Germany ought to be applied to the allied debtors as well, and that he favored the Dawes plan, without control features, for all war debtors.

Finance Minister Clementhal visited Ambassador Herrick today and presented a copy of an inventory of France's finances, calling particular attention to paragraphs stating France had no thought of repudiating war debts, but sought to justify her claims for leniency of treatment, asking application of the principle of Dawes plan to settlement.

Portland Girl's Home Lighting Essay Wins

NEW YORK (By the Associated Press)—Julia Groo, 18, of Portland, Ore., has been awarded a $15,000 model home as first prize in a home lighting essay contest in which one million school children in the United States and Canada competed, the lighting educational committee announced Tuesday night.

Ten other boys and girls received scholarships ranging in value from $200 to $1200.

Crossword Puzzle Answer

Explanation Of Welfare Plan Given

Move to Help the Needy, Started by Reverend Creasey, Results in Success.

Believing that the new plan of handling destitute families and people in Union county has not been properly understood, County Judge U. G. Couch and Dr. Ray F. Murphy, chairman of the Union County Chamber of Commerce welfare committee, today enlarged upon the plans as evolved and approved a week ago, following agitation started by Rev. Creasey to unify and coordinate the care of needy people. In the first place all organizations having this worthy cause in mind fully appreciate that there are local families in distress, not to mention the habitual "moochers" who stray from town to town professionally bent on soliciting from people on the street and at back doors. This class is not so important, everyone contends, but the former is a serious problem, in that the families in need often refrain from asking relief not wanting to pauperize themselves. Concerning the plan as outlined, Dr. Murphy said today:

"It is possible, by the new plans now under way, to eliminate this phase of the question — heads of families, and even boys, can work out food and clothing and not have to accept charity. Families without menfolks in it capable of working naturally do not pauperize themselves by these means either. Any family man without food, wood or credit, can earn sustenance and clothing through the county court facilities by sawing wood provided for that purpose.

Another Problem.

"Another difficult question is equitable disbursing of relief once collected. To remedy this, the county judge will call upon various organizations of the city to provide volunteer committees which may be called upon from time to time to investigate any calls for relief thus eliminating duplication and over-supplies to one and neglect to others. Anyone knowing of a needy family should communicate with the county judge.

"This plan will not overlap nor duplicate the Salvation Army work.

"The first essential thing before the public on the eve of what may be a severe winter is to provide the county judge with necessary relief articles and then assist him in the distribution of the same."

Judge Explains Methods.

Speaking on the question from the standpoint of the county judge Mr. Couch said today:

"Referring briefly to the chairman's report of the welfare committee, regarding Rev. Creasey's relief plan, reported at the chamber of commerce luncheon a week ago, I want to say I was not present at that time, but have been advised that the report was very brief, and my proposal not very well understood. In my opinion a lot of good can be derived from Rev. Creasey's plan if properly handled, and given the support it justifies.

"After it was apparent that the original move was on the rocks, unless some feasible plan was worked out to handle it, and after giving the matter a little thought, I submitted my proposal to the chairman of the Chamber of Commerce welfare committee.

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STUPID. SET PACE, SAYS EDUCATOR

Dull Pupil Held Drag on the Bright, Speaker Tells Teachers

COMPLAINTS AIRED BY KANSAS MAN

Tendency Toward Standardization Is Deplored by President of Kansas College.

PORTLAND, Ore. (Special) — The tendency toward standardization in education and the inclination of teachers to disregard individual differences of pupils was characterized as the great weakness of the American system by Thomas W. Butcher, president of the Kansas State Teachers' college, the Oregon State Teachers' association yesterday.

"We neglect the bright pupils and retard their progress by paying too much attention to those who are less intelligent and less industrious," he told principals and superintendents in one of the department meetings which were started after noon at the Lincoln high school.

Unit Courses Predicted.

"We are unjust to the slow pupils and to those who leave school at the end of the sixth or seventh grade by providing a course designed especially for those who are to finish high school and enter college," he declared at the general meeting yesterday morning.

Ultimately, President Butcher said, courses will be divided by units. Those who do not enter high school will get a complete course in eight years. Their studies will not be the same as those who plan to continue. Classes will be so subdivided that the bright pupils will not be penalized. And in the subdivision the slower pupils will be benfited by the additional instruction and emphasis.

General Meeting Held.

Yesterday brought the first general meeting of the association. Teachers from every county of Oregon were in the auditorium when the session opened in the morning.

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ONE CAR FOR SIX PERSONS

NEW YORK (By the Associated Press)—Motor vehicles registration in the United States for 1924 show that there is one passenger car or truck for every 6.42 persons, based on an estimated population of 114,909,000.

Registration for the year showed gains of 16.28 per cent over the previous year, according to the magazine Motor.

Gas Taxes In State Amount $7,551,408

More Than 230 Thousand Dollars Returned to Operators of Vehicles Not Using Highways.

SALEM, OOre. (By the Associated Press)—To date the motor vehicle fuels tax measures have brought to the state treasury $7,551,408.05 according to Secretary of State Sam Kozer.

Of this amount, Kozer stated, up to December 30th this year, $230,822.60 has been returned to operators of farm tractors, motor boats, commercial cleaning establishments, etc., pursuant to a provision authorizing refunds on fuels not used for vehicles not operated on highways.

RUTHENBERG LOSES FIGHT

LANSING, Mich. (By the Associated Press) — The petition of Charles E. Ruthenberg, convicted of violation of the Michigan syndicalism act, for stay of sentence, was denied by the state supreme court today.

YEAR REPORT IS RECEIVED

Dr. R. P. Landis, chairman of the local chapter of the American Red Cross, has received a copy of the Annual Report of the American National Red Cross, which not only reviews the work of the national organization but gives the budget for the current year.

The scope of the work which is made possible through the renewal of Red Cross membership during each annual Roll Call, is indicated in the section devoted to "Domestic Operations," quoted in part as follows:

"Red Cross work in the United States has been particularly active during the year. The proclamation of President Coolidge early in September which designated the Red Cross as the agency through which American citizens might tangibly express their sympathy for earthquake-stricken Japan was a test which found every Chapter in the county ready. This was equally true of the Red Cross in scores of cities and villages which were suddenly shocked into action by disaster of some sort during the year.

"Certain other milestones were passed in rapid succession. The 40,000 mark was reached in the number of nurses enrolled for immediate service in time of emergency, whether of peace or war. First Aid instruction swept on to new records by wholesale interest

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MARKETS TODAY.

PORTLAND, Ore., (AP)—Cattle steady, hogs and sheep nominally steady. Eggs one to two cents lower, 40c to 44c. Butter 49c. Butterfat steady.

SAN FRANCISCO, (AP)—Butterfat 50 1-2c.

Daylight Robbers Get $11,669; Make Escape

KANSAS CITY, (By the Associated Press)—The Kaw Valley State Bank was robbed of $11,669 here today by three men.

New Rate On Want Ads

Effective tomorrow, Jan. 1st, Want Ads will be charged at the rate of 3c per word for each insertion, with a discount of ONE-THIRD for cash in advance or if paid within three days of FIRST insertion.

Take advantage of this—phone your Want Ads and then come in during the next three days, or send the money and save this one-third discount.

"Observer Advertising—
A Merchandising Service"

Anderson Rearrested

(By NEA Airmail Service)

When William H. Anderson, New York superintendent of the Anti-Saloon league, was released from Sing Sing after serving nine months for forgery, he was rearrested on four bench warrants on four indictments pending against him. Anderson is shown in the center with Detective Kane at the left and Rev. Charles F. Ross, pastor of the Central Methodist church of Yonkers, N. Y., at the right.

PLAGUE FOUND IN U. S. CITIES

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press) — The public health service has invoked a rigid health inspection program applicable to ships reaching any American port from New Orleans, San Pedro or Oakland as a precaution against the spread of bubonic plague infection among rats which has been discovered in those three cities.

RANGE HORSES INVADE BAKER

BAKER, Ore. (Special) — Attracted by the bright lights of the city, bands of horses descended on Baker Monday and the poundkeeper was kept busy corralling them. When night fell he had collected 54 head. The animals are believed to be strays from neighboring ranches.

The cost of feeding 54 animals, city officials decided yesterday, would be heavy, so a solution of the problem was sought. The animals were taken from the pound and under escort of a couple of cow punchers were taken outside the city limits and headed towards new feeding grounds.

PRESIDENT SPEAKS.

WASHINGTON, (AP) — Three thousand members of the American Association for Advancement of Science and allied societies were told by President Coolidge today that the society and the government no longer feared results of scientists searches for truth.

"It has taken endless ages to create in man the courage that will accept truth simply because it is truth," the president said. "Ours is a generation of pioneers in this new faith."

WIDOW ADMITS KILLING 4

LOGANSPORT, Ind. (AP). Mrs. Emma Hobough, 32-year-old widow, confessed Tuesday that she killed the four members of her family found dead Monday on the farm home, eight miles from here, according to Sheriff Walter Bowlyer. A sanity inquest will be held.

NOTE APPROVED.

PARIS, (AP)—The allied council of ambassadors today approved the text of a collective note to Germany, regarding the postponement of the Cologne evacuation. It was decided not to publish the text until it was delivered to Germany.

XTRA

FLOOD DANGER PASSED.

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—Flood waters in the Willamette, caused by rains and melting snow, are receding today and ice conditions in the Wilamette and Columbia rivers are improving. Vessels delayed by the ice are not moving. Reports indicate the upper Willamette is also receding. Eugene reported a drop from 15 to 11 feet during 24 hours.

SCHULMERICH NAMED.

SPOKANE,. (AP) — Varnell's second all-coast conference football eleven, announced today, includes Schulmerich, Oregon Aggie halfback.

KELSO HAS FIRE

KELSO, Wash. (AP)—Fire early today destroyed the Vogue Theater, owned by the Kelso Amusement Co., causing an estimated loss of $30,000. Insurance was $20,000. The fire started from the explosion of an oil stove in a cigar store in the building.

STAGE DRIVER DEAD.

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—Cyrus W. Barger, 76, one of the oldest stage coach drivers in the Northwest, died here last night and will be buried in Silverton Friday. According to his wishes, his body will be born to the grave in a hearse drawn by horses and the whip he used years ago will rest in his hand. Barger drove stages in Idaho, Oregon, British Columbia and Arizona before the advent of railroads.

Children Overcome by Gas Fumes.

CASCADE LOCKS, Ore. — The two small children of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Allen of Stevenson had a narrow escape while playing in the upper part of the garage owned by the Allens. The automobile was running and the fumes from the gas overcame the children.

CHAMPAGNE CAPTURED BY POLICE

Two Hundred Cases Taken by New York Officials After Battle

START DRIVE TO CURB RUM FLOW

Extra Men to Be Placed on Broadway and in Greenwich Village During New Year's Day.

NEW YORK (By the Associated Press)—A gun fight between the marine police and rum smugglers aboard a motorboat containing 200 cases of champagne today inaugurated the flow of liquor into New York for New Year's celebrations.

The fight ended with the capture of the boat and the taking of five prisoners.

Police plans called for 300 extra men on Broadway and 100 others assigned to Greenwich Village.

Proprietors of amusement centers reported reservations far exceeding accommodations and every indication points to this being the gayest New Year's day in several seasons.

Extend Liquor Probe's Scope.

WASHINGTON, (By the Associated Press)—Further investigation of the prohibition unit by private invetsigators was determined upon today by a special senate committee, headed by Senator Couzens, of Michigan.

SMITH'S TEAM RESTS TODAY

BERKELEY, Calif. (By the Associated Press)—With a final light workout Tuesday, Andy Smith, football coach at the University of California, has ordered complete rest for his charges today so that they may store up innumerable calories of pep to be expended here New Year's day against the University of Pennsylvania.

The itinerary of Lou Young's Quakers called for their arrival here Tuesday afternoon and a light workout in the stadium within an hour after reaching their hotel.

The university management reports the sale of more than 40,000 seats. The stadium holds about 73,000 and the size of the crowd probably will depend largely on the weather, which the official forecast views as uncertain.

Smith expects to use a new startling combination in the California backfield. Dixon and Imlay are to be halfbacks and they have been starting regularly, but Griffin at fullback is something of an innovation. Young has been opening the games in the position, though Griffin got into several important games in the Stanford

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GIBBONS OFFERED BOUT WITH FIRPO IN LONDON

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—Tommy Gibbons, St. Paul light heavyweight boxer announced tonight that he had received an offer to fight Luis Angel Firpo, South American heavyweight, before the National Sporting club at London.

Tainted Oysters Fatal

(By NEA Airmail Service)

Investigating the death of William H. McClintock, "Millionaire Orphan," Chicago authorities disinterred the body in an effort to determine positively the cause of death. Yesterday Doctor P. H. Cooney told the states attorney he had satisfied himself McClintock contracted typhoid fever by eating tainted oysters. He said he had traced seven cases of typhoid fever in the North Shore district to eating tainted oysters. In McClintock's case he had traced the oysters to a suburban restaurant.

Stanford Backs Plan To Ride "Four Horsemen"

PASADENA, Calif. (By the Associated Press).—Four Stanford men, Cuddeback, Solomon and Walter, have been assigned a very definite New Year's day task by "Pop" Warner, Stanford coach. When his Cardinal football team meets Notre Dame university, January 1, "Pop" means to have the quartet which forms the Cardinal backfield "get" the "four horsemen" of Notre Dame, part them from their speedy steeds and thus prepare the Irish eleven for the bone-crushing Stanford roller.

Whether or not the powerful four will successfully complete their commission is a matter of conjecture, for it is said they will be at a disadvantage if the "four horsemen" are as fast as they are reputed to be. However, "Pop" Warner refuses to be worried, although he says he does not expect to win. "We don't figure to lick 'em, but we'll give 'em a 'helluva battle,'" declared the veteran mentor.

He put the team through a two-hour practice Monday and held a stiff practice Tuesday and today.

Coach Knute Rockne and his team are due here today.

STANFORD MARKING TIME

LOS ANGELES (AP).—Stanford university football team is marking time, taking things easy, until the afternoon of New Year's day—when it will defend western honors against the best gridiron aggregation that the east has produced this season, the Notre Dame squad. Notre Dame will arrive in Pasadena today.

Stanford's three coaches were in Los Angeles swapping reminiscences with old friends at a meeting of coaches of the Pacific coast section. None of the players was winded in Monday night's

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Fire Causes Death and Destruction in Idaho

Merino building, Boise, burned Tuesday with loss of $160,000.

Mountain Home rancher burned to death in fire that destroyed home.

BOISE, Ida. (Special) — Total loss in the fire which destroyed the Merino building, Tenth and Main streets, Tuesday morning will not exceed one hundred thousand dollars, and one-half of this amount is covered by insurance, according to figures given out this afternoon shortly after the Boise fire department fought the flames from 1:15 o'clock to 7 o'clock Tuesday morning, while the two new gasoline pumpers and a steam pumper threw nearly a million gallons of water on the blaze.

The entire building was gutted, leaving nothing but the brick walls, except at the corner occupied by the Hemenway & Moser cigar store, which was undamaged by flames but suffered heavily from water and smoke.

Damage to the building itself, owned by the Robert Noble estate, was estimated at $60,000, covered by insurance. The building was erected nearly 25 years ago.

Nine stores on the ground floor of the building were destroyed. The Boise Saddlery & Findings Co., owned by G. P. Holloway and Geo. E. Cooley, were the heaviest sufferers. Their stock was completely destroyed with a loss of $50,000.

Damages to other stores are as follows: The XXXX lunch, owned by R. E. Wyckoff, $1000 damage from water and smoke, no insurance; the Boise Drum & Saxophone Co., owned by A. M. Bufort, $20 loss by smoke and water; the Boise Saddlery & Findings Co., $50,000 loss by fire, covered by insurance; the Boise Shoe Shine parlor, owned by Tom and William Casey, $2000 losses from fire and

(Continued on page 3)