

LAND OFFICE HERE CLOSES

ATTEMPTS TO CHECK MOVE FAIL

Last Minute Arguments by McNary, Sinnott Meet No Response

OFFICES CLOSED AT 4:30 O'CLOCK

Records and Equipment Will Be Forwarded to The Dalles; Burns Offices Also Closed.

After 60 years of continuous service to a territory that at first embraced all Eastern Oregon, the United States land office here has been closed by order of Secretary of the Interior Hubert Work, endorsed by President Coolidge. Strenuous efforts to secure abolition or suspension of the closing order kept up until the final closing period, were of no avail.

The land office officially closed functioning here yesterday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. Considerable last minute business was transacted Thursday before the doors swung shut on the public.

Simultaneously with the ending of the land office's service here, the Burns, Oregon, office was also closed.

To consolidate with The Dalles (Boiler) under the direction of J. H. Pears, in charge of the land office since January 17th, when the receiver and registrar offices were consolidated under one head, the work of gathering the records and equipment together to ship it to The Dalles is under way.

George Carpy, connected with the office for many years will move to The Dalles and J. H. Pears, formerly receiver and lately commissioner in charge of the office, will return to his business interests.

Established in 1855. In 1865 when Eastern Oregon was literally a virgin territory, the local office was actually established. Officially it did not open until the following year. Since that time it has served a large territory and thousands of patrons.

The La Grande office is the pioneer of all out of the Cascades. The Dalles office was established in 1874, Burns in 1889 and Vale in 1910. All local business must now be transacted in The Dalles. The extreme end of the territory served by The Dalles is 700 miles distant from the consolidated office by the route traveled.

Movement Held Unjust. The order abolishing the local office is held unjust by many concerned, including Mr. Pears, Senator Charles McNary and Congressman N. J. Sinnott. Two chances under which a land office may be

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HARVEY TAKES OVER STORE

John T. Harvey today announced that a deal had been consummated whereby he would take entire charge of the Club cigar store here, Dallas Green, formerly associated with Mr. Harvey in the store, will be affiliated with the Coca Cola Bottling company here in connection with Earl Hoosh.

Lady Customers Effect Barber Shop Atmosphere

Since the women started frequenting the barber shops for hair cuts the barber business has increased according to local barbers, although sometimes it has caused inconvenience to the barbers' non-patrons, because of the fact that many times a woman come to the shop for a hair, shingle, or neck trim in company with two or three friends, who sit and wait for her, one barber states, continued: "When a man customer comes in and sees those people waiting he leaves, either to come back later or go to another shop. These men usually hunt a shop that does not have much female trade or that

Much Timber In Umatilla U.S. Forest

Enough Marketable Lumber to Build a 5-room House for Every Oregon Citizen.

During the observance of National Forest Week, the Evening Observer has procured some very interesting facts concerning the Umatilla National forest, which are given below:

The Umatilla National forest embraces a gross area of almost one and one-half million acres, being of approximately the same area as the state of Delaware. It lies in three divisions extending from Wheeler county, Oregon, into Asotin county, Wash., a distance of 170 miles. It contains land in six counties in Oregon and four in Washington and has an estimated stand of four and one-half billion feet of marketable timber, enough if sawed into inch board, to build a sidewalk 10 feet in width three times around the globe; or if built into houses, it would supply every family in the state of Oregon with a modern fire-proof dwelling.

PROTECTION COSTS

To protect this timber from fires the government expends about one cent per acre.

The grazing authorization is for 137,704 head of sheep and 13,962 head of cattle and horses.

Timber and grazing are not the only resources of the Umatilla forest. It is estimated that there are about 200 head of deer and elk and over 1200 bear in the forest, besides smaller game and fish.

Permits Issued

Fourteen permits have been issued for summer homes and closed to 10,000 visitors (hunters, fishermen, recreationists, etc.) coming into the forest each season and the number is rapidly increasing.

In addition the forest affords watershed protection and enforcement of sanitation on scores of creeks and rivers; and assures a steady stream flow for water power, irrigation and city water supply.

The administration of the Umatilla is in the hands of a supervisor and his two assistants with headquarters in Pendleton and nine district rangers who are in the field most of the time. During the fire season this force is increased by the addition of 25 short term men. About 75 laborers are employed on construction work, maintenance of roads and trails, and are kept in readiness as the first line of defense in case of fire.

The Umatilla national forest now has slightly over 470 miles of telephone line and about 25 miles more is being built each season. There are 123 miles of roads.

Expense Hefty

The expense of administering the Umatilla is about \$32,000 a year. The money for roads and trails is (Continued on Page Five.)

Drunk Driver Jailed, Fined; Loses License

Frank Bureth was arrested yesterday by Traffic Officer Alonzo Dunn on a charge of driving a car while drunk. Bureth was fined \$150, sentenced to 30 days in the city jail and his operator's license was suspended for a period of six months.

"Out Our Way" Takes "Old Home Town" Place

Because of a demand for the new comic feature now being published by the Evening Observer—"Out Our Way"—the NEA service, which supplies this material, acquiesced to the majority demand and substituted the new feature for the popular "Old Home Town."

A few inquiries have been received concerning the disappearance of the "Old Home Town" but on the whole, it seems that the Evening Observer readers enjoy the new daily cartoon.

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OLD TIMERS FORM CLUB LAST NIGHT

a Grande Railroadmen of 20 Years' Service or More Join Hands

TWENTY-FOUR AT FIRST MEETING

King, Driskell, Happersett, Smith, Keeney and Rohan Named on Temporary Committee.

A number of Union Pacific employees representing the various crafts and who have been in the city over twenty years, met at the Employees Club House last evening for the purpose of discussing and taking preliminary steps toward an "Old Timers" club on the Second Division.

A number of Old Timers clubs have already been organized on other portions of the Union Pacific System, and Wm. Freeman, president of the Portland club, was present and explained the purpose, procedure necessary to go through in forming a club, etc. The object of the club is to bring about closer relationship between old time employees, promote loyalty, advance the interests of each other and employer.

Many Present

Following were present at the meeting here last evening: W. Robinson, W. S. Haver, C. E. Happersett, Martin King, J. H. Dupes, S. C. Smith, W. Harrison, Joe Stewart, A. P. Nelson, Myers Putnam, Axel Seaburg, J. H. Keeney, Cal Larin, J. J. Beldin, J. Daniels, B. Brooks, Nels Nelson, F. E. Rohan, H. W. Swart, Wm. Driskell, C. E. Merrill and Oscar Hopper. P. J. Thelton and A. J. Martin, mentioned employees, were also present.

The following temporary committee was selected to make arrangements for a meeting in the near future of all employees having over 20 years service, for the purpose of perfecting a permanent organization of Old Timers Club:

Martin King, engineer; Wm. Driskell, trainman; C. E. Happersett, yardman; S. C. Smith, maintenance of way; J. H. Keeney, station service; F. E. Rohan, mechanical dept.

RYAN COMPANY BUYS PACIFIC

A deal which has been pending for some time was concluded today when Vance Rootwick, manager of the Pacific Fruit company today here, turned over the keys of the establishment to G. C. Robinson, manager of the local branch of the Ryan Fruit company.

The transaction involved the purchase of the Pacific Fruit company establishments in both Baker and La Grande. The stock, leases and good will were all bought outright and the Ryan company is taking possession today.

J. G. Bowers, district supervisor of the Ryan company, from the Portland office is in La Grande this morning attending to the details of the transaction and seeing that the local plant is properly installed in the Pacific Fruit company location.

The Ryan Fruit company stock is being moved from the present location into the Pacific Fruit company building one block further east on Jefferson avenue and on the corner of Greenwood street.

CUMMINS SELLS ELGIN RECORDER TO MONTANA MAN

ELGIN, Ore. (Special)—The Elgin Recorder local weekly publication, with this week's issue, passed into the hands of J. Y. Wright, late of Livingston, Montana, who comes here with high recommendations as a newspaperman of ability and high integrity.

"In buying down our work here the editor does so with considerably more regret than pleasure," is the remark made by J. M. Cummins, former editor and owner of the paper.

U.P. Reports Decline In Net Income

Agricultural Conditions Bearing on Overland Shipping Said to Be Responsible.

NEW YORK (By the Associated Press)—Operating under less favorable conditions in 1924, the Union Pacific Railroad company reported to stockholders Thursday net income for the year of \$26,733,294, more than \$5,000,000 below that of 1923.

The road's operating revenues of \$189,825,117 were about \$12,000,000 less than those of the preceding year and railway operating income of \$42,526,622 was \$5,534,911 lower. After the payment of all charges and dividends the company ended the year with a surplus of \$9,532,625 compared with \$15,692,569 for 1923.

Carl R. Gray, president of the Union Pacific, attributed the lower freight revenues to a decrease in the volume of agricultural products transported from states west of the Rocky Mountains due to the damage to crops in that territory from late spring frosts and severe draughts. Uncertain business conditions prevailing most of the year throughout the country, he added, reduced the movement of building and construction materials, manufactures and merchandise.

Among its extensive holdings of (Continued on Page Five.)

START MUSIC WEEK SUNDAY

La Grande's first annual Music week, which will officially begin Sunday with a concert in the Arcade Theater, featuring the band and the Monday Musical chorus, is confidently expected to be a big success.

"It will be one of the most widespread of community affairs ever undertaken in this city," is a member of the Monday Musical club asserts, claiming that there will be "music for everyone."

The program, which will be printed in full later this week, is replete with many excellent musical features and promises to really offer diversity that will appeal to all.

WALLES DRIVES TEAM OF OXEN

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (By Associated Press)—The Prince of Wales today drove an ox wagon through the streets of Capetown, accompanied by thousands of university students singing "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

MAY DAY QUIET IN CAPITALS OF WORLD POWERS

SOFIA (AP)—An attempt to assassinate King Boris was frustrated today when guards discovered an almost complete automobile passage with an explosive fuse which they believed was intended to blow up the royal palace.

ROME (AP)—May Day was reported tranquil throughout Italy, the result of mobilization of police and Fascist militia precautions to prevent attempts at violence.

NEW YORK (AP)—May Day was marked by police raids on ten meetings of communists, socialists and alleged anarchists, at which all participants were driven into the street. The most important raid was on the Manhattan headquarters of the Workers Party of America.

What Sister Mary Says

On the woman's page of The Observer each day you'll find suggested menus under the heading "Sister Mary's Kitchen."

The recipes are thoroughly tested, dependable, and delicious. It is a feature women appreciate—and one of the many reasons why The Observer's reader interest and reader confidence is ever increasing. Reader interest and reader confidence are the most important items for an advertiser to consider in buying space.

"Observer Advertising—A Merchandising Service"

MYSTERY OF IDENTITY OF GIRL ENDED

Body Found Near Chesterton That of Mrs. Desiderio, 21

MOTHER, FRIEND RECOGNIZE HER

Police Believe That Identification Is Complete; Both Viewers Very Positive.

GALE, Ind. (By the Associated Press)—Identification of the girl whose burned, maimed body was found Sunday near Chesterton, as Mrs. Josephine Desiderio, 21, of Gary, was believed complete today by officers after the girl's mother and Sam Ross, a friend, were positive in recognizing her.

The mother was traced through a telephone number scrawled on the lining of a vanity case found near the body.

POLICE DOG HELPS

RANDOLPH, VI. (By the Associated Press)—A German police dog today led three men to a barn on an abandoned farm in South Brookfield, where they found Earl Woodward, farm hand and former convict, and Lucille Chatterton, 11, who left her Grandmother.

2 SMALL FIRES OCCUR IN CITY THIS MORNING

Two fires, both of a minor nature, occurred in La Grande this morning.

The first alarm was turned in at 10:25 a. m. The roof of a residence at 1203 O avenue, occupied by Harry Myers, caught fire but the blaze was soon extinguished.

During the noon hour the fire truck was called to 1922 11th street where about \$5 damage was done before a small fire was put out.

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Maid From Mexico Bobs



A president's daughter, perhaps should strive to uphold the traditions and dignities of her country. But Alicia Galles, 11, the daughter of the president of Mexico is thoroughly Americanized, after a few months of school in San Diego. A modish bob supplants the long plaits of hair. Rolled down hose and short skirts, too. The American girl's freedom to attend shows, dance, shop and visit without a governess always appeals to her. So does jazz music. And since visiting Hollywood, she aspires to become a movie actress.

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XTRA

BIRTHRATE HIGHER WASHINGTON (AP)—The rate of increase of the nation's population by birth was considerably higher in 1924 than in 1923. The birth rate increased 22.3 persons per thousand in 1923 to 22.5 per thousand in 1924, according to the census bureau survey made public today.

INAUGURATION SET

BERLIN (AP)—President-Elect von Hindenburg will take office and be inaugurated at noon, May 12, it was officially decided today.

CALIFORNIA TREMBLES

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Shallow earth shocks were felt at several points in southern California early today but no damage was reported. At Riverside shocks frightened patients at the county hospital, where fire doors sprang open and windows rattled furiously.

CASE DIAGNOSED

BOSTON (AP)—A condition known as "heart block," sometimes found with advancing age was discovered by physicians who examined John C. Coolidge, the president's father, today.

DECREE SUSPENDED

WASHINGTON (AP)—Denying the government's request for limitation of the order suspending operations of the packer census decree, Justice Bailey in the District of Columbia supreme court, today entered a formal order suspending the decree "in every particular." The order will be effective until further order of court, which it was stipulated, will be entered, if at all, only after final hearing of the case.

MANY KILLED IN WRECK

BHUNEDMUKHL, Prussia (AP)—Kydtkuhnen-Herthi express train was derailed today, killing between 20 and 40 persons and injuring forty.

OLD TRICK BY POLICE LANDS MAN

Writer of Threatening Letters Is Taken Into Custody

PORTLAND TAILOR SOUGHT \$2,000

Papers Stuffed in Package as Foil Proved Successful; Confession Followed.

PORTLAND, Ore. (By the Associated Press)—Ernest J. Elmigren, tailor, arrested last yesterday as he was about to take a cache supposed to contain \$2,000, confessed today that he had sent threatening letters to J. P. Rasmussen, local paint dealer, the deputy sheriff announced.

Elmigren was arrested on the Powell valley road at the spot where Rasmussen had been directed to leave a package containing the two thousand dollars. The package, however, consisted of old papers.

Heavily in Debt

Officers said that Elmigren confessed that he conceived a plot to extort money from Rasmussen after reading stories in magazines. He said he was heavily in debt as the result of financial difficulties and failure to succeed in his tailor shop.

Elmigren had known Rasmussen and made clothes for him for 15 years, he said. Officers said he admitted planning to send a threatening letter to another man, John Dalquist. He said he never intended to carry out the threats contained in the letter to Rasmussen.

Threatened Fire

One letter received by Rasmussen contained a threat to burn his building and pour acid in his automobile unless he complied with the directions to turn over the money.

ELGIN VOTES WATER BONDS

ELGIN, Ore. (Special to the Observer)—The vote on bonding the city for a better water system at the recent special election resulted in a majority of almost three to one for the water bonds. The vote was 127 for the bonds, 45 against.

The bonds were already sold at a good figure on the condition that the election resulted favorably to the bond issue. Following the working out of further details necessary construction will begin.

GOES TO VISIT AUSTRALIA

WASHINGTON (AP)—The blue jackets of the American fleet will have no difficulty spending their pay abroad when their ships put into Australian harbors during the forthcoming cruise.

Because American money cannot ordinarily be changed into Australian money without considerable loss, the American and Australian governments have entered into a special agreement for immediate conversion of carrying up to \$2,000,000 to meet the best payroll while in Australia.

WASHINGTON IS CLASSIFIED

As Irresponsible City

It simply doesn't care. Nearly everybody here is away from home, with little or nothing to do, and interested almost exclusively in having a good time. There are ideal conditions for Satan's purposes and he makes the most of them.

What's become of the Scott divorce case, at Alpena, Mich.? The testimony in the case told the story of life in Washington, with bawdy (Continued on page 9)

Out to Break Air Record



Two records will go smash if Lieutenant Ben H. Wyatt, of San Diego naval air station, is successful with his six-ton modified Douglas torpedo plane. First he'll try to break the sustained flight record, and then he plans a non-stop flight from Seattle to San Diego.

SID BARBARIAN, YOUNG CARMEN FIGHT TO DRAW

PORTLAND, Ore. (By the Associated Press)—Sid Barbarian, of Detroit, and Young Carmen, of Portland, fightweights, fought a 10-round draw here last night.

Wallowa County Fair Dates Are Agreed on

ENTERPRISE, Ore. (Special to the Observer)—The dates for the annual Wallowa county fair to be held here this fall have been set for September 25-October 2, inclusive.