

"GUILTY" VERDICT EXPECTED

ELECTION ON BUDGET IS NEARING

Citizens of District to Decide upon Expense Account Dec. 28

BOARD MEMBERS EXPLAIN RAISE

Although Budget Totals \$155,769.26 This Year, Levy in Mills Will Be Less.

In connection with a special school budget election in district No. 1 set for Monday, December 23, at the Central school building, members of the board of education today outlined the provisions of the budget for the coming year, explaining several items that have not been publicly gone into before.

The total amount of the budget this year is \$155,769.26, about \$500 more than last year, however the levy in mills this year will be less.

The current school budget was first temporarily made up by the board of education and later considered and approved by the budget committee and finally advertised formally by the board after affording an opportunity to be all concerned for a hearing. The budget consists of several divisions and funds.

Under the head of personal services for the current school year, there will be expenditures of \$2000 to the city superintendent on a 12-month contract, \$5160 for principals of the high school and four grade schools, \$30,709.26 for 45 high and grade school instructors, with a possible additional expenditure of \$2460 for two additional grade teachers, beginning the second semester in the middle of January, and substitute teachers for unavoidable absences through illness or otherwise. An

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9 BACHELORS DINE AT COVE

Gerhart G. Stackland, with eight of his bachelor friends as guests, spent a feast at his home in Cove last night to celebrate their spinster status.

With song and jest and boasts of their hairbreadth escapes from the snares of matrimony, they proceeded to demonstrate the career bliss of celibacy. At the same time they paid profuse compliments to the dainty prepared and served by their sisters of the house. Mrs. Pauline Prillman, Mrs. Edna Miller and Mrs. Constance Anderson.

Clever sketches suggestive of the wretched occupation of the guests, directed them to their places at the table, which was gay with doll favors and a flower centerpiece.

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Wallowa Farmers Hold Grain For High Prices

WALLOWA, Ore. (Special)—Many of the farmers of this county have been greatly benefited by the gradual rise in the price of wheat during the past several weeks. No larger amount of wheat has been marketed by farmers in this county at any one time this year, and some wheat was sold at thrashing time when the price was around \$1.25 per bushel, while some sales were made a few weeks later when the price was considerably lower. However, a large percentage of the farmers felt that a better price was bound to come as the season advanced, and held a large part of their grain. Reports indicate that a considerable quantity of the wheat being held here. Joe Gains, most seriously injured, is believed to have a fractured skull. Cause of the fire is unknown.

Salaries Of 6 Officials Up \$5 to \$15

City Recorder, Water, Police and Fire Chiefs, Treasurer and Physician Given "Raise."

A new salary ordinance, raising the monthly pay checks of six city officials from \$5 to \$15 each, was effective Dec. 1, this year, was passed at the meeting of the city commission last night. Salaries of other officials remain the same as during the past year.

The ordinance provided that the following salaries be paid in the future: city recorder, \$170; city treasurer, \$145; police chief, \$150; fire chief, \$150; water superintendent, \$150; city physician, \$20.

The commission authorized the city manager to let a contract for the repair of the city's contagious hospital.

A petition, with 23 signers, was presented, asking the installation of an arc light at the corner of North Depot and 2d. The matter was referred to the city manager.

The commission authorized the execution of a quit claim deed in favor of the La Grande Investment company for lot 3, block 9, Romig's addition, having paid back liens on that.

An estimate was allowed W. C. Kelley in the amount of \$1,850 for work already completed on the municipal building.

An application by Kuhn and Zweifel for permission to sell soft drinks at the corner of Hemlock and Jefferson was granted.

Several other minor matters were attended to before adjournment.

COVE DISTRICT DEFEATS 2-YEAR SCHOOL 12 TO 8

Lower Cove defeated by a vote of 12 to eight Wednesday afternoon the movement to establish a two-year high school in the building erected by the district during the past summer and fall. E. A. Sayre, county superintendent, reports.

Almost the entire community turned out for the meeting, which took place at the school house with William Miller, chairman of the board of education, presiding.

Since the action for expansion failed to carry, Lower Cove school will continue to function as an eight-grade system.

County Dairymen Meet; New Members Register

Seventeen men, representing practically every large retail dairy in Union county, attended the second meeting of dairymen's association held in the chamber of commerce office last night. A few new members, got enrolled at the last meeting, registered last night.

No permanent by-laws were adopted. Another meeting date was set for next Wednesday, December 23.

Masons Will Elect New Officers Tonight

Officers for the ensuing year will be elected and installed tomorrow night when La Grande lodge No. 41, A. F. and A. M. will hold its annual meeting at the Masonic hall.

After the installation refreshments will be served.

DOMIER TAKES PORTFOLIO

PARIS, (By the Associated Press)—Paul Domier, chairman of the finance committee of the senate, accepted yesterday afternoon the weighty responsibility of the finance ministry in the cabinet of Premier Briand.

Arrested



The chocolates sent by mail to Otto Hartman, 45, of Jersey City, were favored with a presidential pardon, Jersey authorities charged when they arrested Mrs. Hartman, 31, above, and Ernest Hartman, 31, former boarder at the Hartman home.

DEATH TAKES AGED RESIDENT

Jonathan Hicks, 84, a resident of La Grande for the past eight years, died at the family home Tuesday. It was learned today, funeral services will be held Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the L. D. S. tabernacle with burial in the L. D. S. cemetery. Arrangements are in charge of the W. H. Bohlenkamp company.

The decedent and his wife, who survives him, celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary several months ago. Other survivors are the following sons and daughters: Mrs. J. H. Dodds, Mrs. M. S. Johnson, Louis, Ezra and Rudger Hicks, all of La Grande; and Mrs. Thomas Kingston, of Thornton, Ida.

RAIDERS FIND STILL AT COVE

Clyde Bloom, of Cove, was arraigned in the justice of the peace court at 9:20 o'clock this morning on a charge of illegal possession of a gun. After hearing the charge, Judge Hugh E. Brady allowed the defendant until Saturday, Dec. 19, at 2 p. m. to prepare his plea. Bloom was released on furnishing bonds for reappearances, set by the court at \$1000. H. L. Hess is defendant's attorney.

George M. Pierce, special prohibition deputy, arrested Bloom on the farm he occupies near Cove when a raid yielded a 65-gallon still in full operation.

Bloom was recently the center of a case charging mistreatment of the American flag. He was convicted of tearing down a flag used as street decoration and destroying it.

FIVE ARE HURT IN FIRE

KLAMATH FALLS (By the Associated Press)—Five men were hurt in a blaze which destroyed a steam rock crusher used in construction work on the Dulles-calls for a new increase of 11 per cent—a most gratifying growth considering the very high cost that has always existed in the city.

S. E. MILLER IS ELECTED PRESIDENT

Union Men Start Ball Rolling for the 1926 Livestock Show

JUNE 9-10-11 ARE DATES SELECTED

Enthusiastic Discussion of Plans for Coming Year Held During the Meeting Last Night.

Plans of the Union Live Stock show for 1926 were started in earnest last night when the show association held its annual meeting in the city hall at Union. A decision was made to hold next years June 9, 10 and 11. S. Edward Miller was elected president of the association to take the place of George Benson and C. L. Caldwell was elected vice president in place of Dr. W. T. Phy. Tony D. Smith was re-elected secretary and Fred Fox was re-elected treasurer.

Members of the board of directors were chosen as follows: George Benson, Dr. W. T. Phy, L. A. Wright, Robert Witcombe, William Vogel, M. R. Levy and J. P. Hutchison.

Following the election of officers there was a very enthusiastic discussion or plans for the coming year. Preparations were only started last night, but the association anticipates a bigger and better show than ever before.

ARREST LIGHT LAW VIOLATORS

Violators of the state automobile light law may expect to be picked up any time, according to the officers, who are agreed that three months of leniency since the law went into effect has been quite time enough to allow every driver to make the required light adjustments.

Judge Hugh E. Brady, in whose court the offenders are to be tried, said this morning that he intends to accept no excuses. The prosecution of such cases is quite disagreeable enough without them, he declared. Fines will be imposed for violations unless the drivers can show certificates or receipts in evidence of their readiness to comply with the law. The minimum fine that the judge imposed for traffic violations is \$10.

Six arrests have been recorded within the last week or so. They are likely to be followed by many more, the officers state. Baker county rounded up 95 offenders last week, according to a report received here.

The state highway department maintains its garage in La Grande, officers in this part of the country bring their vehicles here for repair. For that reason, there are often several officers here at the same time. With the new policy of rigorous enforcement, lawbreakers will find it hard to escape detection.

Added City Coverage

During the last three months the circulation of The Observer in the city of La Grande has shown a net increase of 11 per cent—a most gratifying growth considering the very high cost that has always existed in the city.

Not only are readers in the rural districts and in the city towns increasing, but here at home the growth is equally steady. It is natural, therefore, that practical advertisers would say that they cannot possibly cover the La Grande territory except in The Observer at anywhere near the same cost.

"Observer Advertising—A Merchandising Service."

Two Pitched High In Air At City Well

O-W. Storekeeper and Car Inspector in Hospital Today Following Freak Accident.

Arthur James, storekeeper for the O-W. It. & N., and Neils Nelson, car inspector, left the freight yards for a visit to the new city well Wednesday at 4 p. m. just in time to become the victims of a freak accident that landed them both in the hospital.

James has both bones of his right leg broken below the knee and is suffering from a terrific jolting. Concussion of the brain kept Nelson unconscious for about an hour after he was hurt. He has several bad bruises about his shoulders and back, and is feeling the results of a nervous shock.

The two men, working in the upper end of the freight yards, left their duties for a few minutes to watch the construction work over near the viaduct, where the city is sinking a new well.

They stopped up on a pair of planks that extended out the door. The other end of the planks held a clamp through which the drillers were driving a casing. The casing struck an obstruction—a coupling, it is thought—and the workmen loosened the clamp to help slide it by. Just then the casing took a sudden drop, pitching the planks and the visiting railroad men high into the air.

Nelson was unconscious when they picked him up, and it was evident that James had a leg broken. They were rushed to the hospital in an ambulance, and are being attended by Dr. C. S. Moore, railroad physician.

Both men are taking their hard luck good naturedly. They gave a laughing description of the accident to visitors at the hospital this morning.

James lives at 1202 Eighth street, and Nelson, at 1799 Oak.

Turks Will Not Break With Great Britain

GENEVA (By the Associated Press)—Our relations with England will continue to be friendly, said Tewfik Ruzidli Bey, Turkish foreign minister, before leaving for Ankara following the league of nations council's award in the dispute between Great Britain and Turkey over the Mosul area in Mesopotamia. The decision gives Mosul virtually in its entirety to Great Britain in the form of a mandate.

TURK CABINET MEETING

CONSTANTINOPLE (By the Associated Press)—Upon receipt of the league of nations' decision on the Turkish dispute over Mosul, the Turkish cabinet at Ankara was immediately called into session by President Mustapha Kemal Pasha.

Range Conditions Good In Western Territory

DENVER, Colo. (Special)—Livestock and range conditions are very favorable in the western states with cattle and sheep going into the winter in good condition with good prospects for winter range and an ample supply of feed, according to the monthly livestock and range report issued by the division of crop and livestock estimates of the United States department of agriculture.

Winter ranges generally carry a good supply of feed, showing a marked improvement over a year ago. The condition of Oregon ranges were 96 per cent normal (December 1, compared with 72 per cent normal a year ago. The average condition of ranges in the western states is 91 compared with 77 in 1924.

Railroad Heads Predict Continuing Prosperity

CHICAGO (By the Associated Press)—Two western railroad presidents late Wednesday predicted prosperity for the nation in 1926 at a luncheon attended by individual executives here.

Mr. Storey declared the railroads are functioning today under the best conditions they have ever known. Business, he said, has an excellent outlook in every direction.

President Gray compared present railroad conditions to those of the post-war era of government management declaring that while shippers had suffered losses of more than a billion dollars under the government rail regime, these losses had been more than repaid in savings accorded to shippers since 1922.

Bandits Can't Frighten Her



Miss Gladys Pilkington, of Portland, Ore., has plenty of nerve. She's on her way to Mazatlan where she will spend several months hunting curio. She is traveling alone but will be well armed when she gets into the wilds.

WORLD COURT UP IN SENATE

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—After a delay of nearly three years, the senate today needed the repeated urgings of the white house and began debate on a resolution proposing American membership in the world court.

The discussion took on many of the same characteristics that vitiated the senate's long struggle over the league of nations.

Once more the mantle of leadership fell upon the shoulders of a Democrat, Senator Brewster of Virginia. In opposition stood a determined phalanx of irreconcilables under the leadership of the Republican chairman of the foreign relations committee, Senator Borah of Idaho.

Holding the balance was the group where the leaders had been "old reservationists" in the fight over the league.

GIFT TAX REJECTED

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—The house today refused to place a gift tax in the new revenue bill rejecting the amendment offered by Representative Frear, Republican, of Wisconsin, proposing a continuance of the gift tax created two years ago with rates equal to inheritance taxes as written in the measure, were accepted without a debate.

Japanese Troops Now In Manchurian Capital

TOKYO (By the Associated Press)—The war office reported today that the first detachment of Japanese troops sent from Korea to Manchuria to assist in the pacification of foreigners during Chinese factional fighting had arrived at Mukden, Manchurian capital, last evening and that additional troops are expected tonight.

Advices to the war office report that 1900 native troops at Jehol, Chihli province, China, have risen in support of General Li Ching ling, governor of the province, and are advancing on Shinkwan, after defeating nationalist troops at Chifeng Kao. The nationalists are also reported defeated near Kin-chow.

Liquid Air Will Be Demonstrated Friday

J. Kenneth Fleishman, a student at Oregon Agricultural college, will give a demonstration with liquid air at a special assembly of the high school at 2 p. m. Friday.

In a letter to E. D. Towler, principal, Fleishman, who is a 1924 alumnus of La Grande, states that the demonstration comes under the auspices of the chemical engineering department at O. A. C. as an announcement of the annual exposition that the college will hold in February.

MITCHELL CASE NEAR END TODAY

Air Crusader Rests Without Replying to Prosecution's Demand

SCORES OPPONENTS IN BRIEF ADDRESS

Gullion, in Arguments, Asks That Mitchell Be Stripped of His Army Commission.

WASHINGTON (AP Press Time Flash)—The step prescribed by the regulations to accompany the finding of "guilty" was taken late today by the Mitchell court martial. Soon after the court closed to consider the verdict it returned to open a session to ask if the prosecution had any further evidence to place before it. Under the law this question has to be asked when the verdict "guilty" has been found and it not customarily asked when the defendant has been found innocent.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Denouncing the methods employed in his prosecution before the army courtmartial trying him, Col. William Mitchell today rested his case without replying to the prosecution's demand that he be dismissed from the army.

arising from his place before the bar when the court met to hear the closing arguments. Loc air crusader made a brief statement, saying he had shown the truth of his public utterances which led to his trial, but had been answered by misinformation and untruthful evidence on the competency of which the court had refused to pass.

"To proceed further with the case would serve no useful purpose."

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FUTURE ROSY, BAKER HEARS

BAKER, Ore. (Special)—A great industrial development and a mining boom of huge proportions was predicted for Baker county at a meeting of the chamber of commerce yesterday that was well attended and optimistic. Following talks by Baker business and mining men it was decided to invite a group from the Portland chamber of commerce to inspect the copper belt. A high pitch of enthusiasm characterized the meeting.

High lights in the talk made by J. D. Cray, president of the Mother Lode copper company, were:

Baker county has millions of tons of copper.

Copper can be produced here cheaper than anywhere else in the world, because of the high gold and silver content of the ore.

"There are one and a half billion dollars invested in the copper business in the United States," Mr. Cray said. "It costs nearly eight cents a pound to produce copper. The gold content in the ore averages but 20 cents a ton. There is

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XTRA

WOULD KILL STRESEMANN BELIEVE (AP).—"That big Stresemann must be killed" is a passage in a letter, the discovery of which led to the revelation of a plot to assassinate Germany's foreign minister. Two German fascists, Kaldorf and Lorenz, are under arrest. They are alleged to have perfected their plans to a point of providing for disguises and a getaway in a motor car and airplane after the proposed assassination.

SOVIET QUESTION UP

WASHINGTON (AP)—Recognition of the Russian Soviet government was asked in a resolution drawn up today by Representative Berger, Socialist, of Wisconsin.

BANK HEARING ON

SALFEM, Ore (AP)—A hearing before the state banking board today brought out the information that a certain Western Oregon bank, unidentified to avoid publicity, was in a precarious condition because it is holding irrigation bonds of the state of Washington. State Superintendent of banks Bramwell said he has had the bank under surveillance four years.

EMPLOYMENT ON INCREASE

WASHINGTON (AP)—A slight increase in employment during November amounting to two-twentieths of one per cent was indicated Wednesday by the labor department monthly survey of the nation's leading industries. The index of employment was placed at 92.5 against 92.3 during October.

The figures were compiled from reports from 946 employing establishments in 53 different industries, which employ 2,927,894 workers. Practically all lines of employment showed slight gains, except for the seasonal industries, whose operations are normally curtailed during the late fall months.

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Anti-Aircraft Practice Successful, Bloch Says

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Rear Admiral C. C. Bloch, chief of the navy bureau of ordnance disclosed today that the anti-aircraft practice conducted last July by the dirigible Shenandoah and the battleship Texas in Tanager sound, Chesapeake Bay, was primarily to test a new type of target, while the firing at the target was only incidental.

The Shenandoah towed the target at that time and the understanding generally was that the efficiency of the anti-aircraft guns on the Texas was the object primarily to be tested. It later was said that the number of hits made was most satisfactory.

Following the tests in his annual report, Admiral Bloch said: "One of the great difficulties encountered in anti-aircraft gunnery and training has been the lack of a proper target. The towed target hitherto used has been too small to give a proper point of aim at high altitudes and too small to give a target large enough to register hits. Utilizing the naval aircraft factory, the bureau has been devising a target of large size to be tested by heavier-than-air craft and a target of much greater size to be towed by lighter-than-air ships, singly or in tandem. If a number of targets can be towed by a lighter-than-air ship it will be practicable to stimulate squadron attack and defense.

"The U. S. S. Texas and Shenandoah operated together during the week ending July 24, 1923. These operations were solely for

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