

CHURCHES USHER IN XMAS WEEK

Yuletide Services Held Throughout La Grande

CANTATA WINDS UP SUNDAY'S PROGRAM

Presbyterian Church Crowded to Capacity for Presentation of "Holy Night."

Christmas week was ushered in with a Sunday of special services in the churches all over town, culminating last night in a presentation of the cantata, "Holy Night," by a chorus of 60 voices under the direction of Mrs. A. L. Richardson at the Presbyterian church.

Every available seat was taken before the program began, and many of the late comers had to be turned away for lack of room. Telling the story of the nativity and combining some of the best loved Christmas songs, the cantata was received with hearty appreciation by the audience. Mrs. J. A. Tedford, at the organ, played the prelude and accompaniments.

Mrs. Clark Fuller and Miss Adelaide Clark led the soprano section, the latter giving an effective rendition of her solo, "Star of the East," despite the handicap of a severe cold.

G. L. Dutton took the tenor lead; R. O. Williams, the baritone, and E. D. Towler, the bass. Trios by Mrs. E. L. Holmes, Mrs. Esther Phelps and Mrs. E. P. Walden, of the alto section, replaced the contra-tenors that were to have been sung by Mrs. W. H. Bohlenkamp Jr., illness of her small son, Billy, detained Mrs. Bohlenkamp at home.

Christmas sermons were delivered from nearly every pulpit in the morning. The Men's Forum at the Methodist Episcopal church observed the occasion with a treat.

Prisoners in the county jail heard "sermons on the frosty air," the Salvation Army singers carrying the season's message. In the evening the Salvation Army hall was the scene of a special Christmas program. An old fashioned love feast, with every parishioner present testifying to salvation, characterized the evening service at the South Methodist church. The Rev. Howard B. Smith, of the American Sunday School association, addressed the congregation at the church of the Nazarene at the evening meeting.

Elks Raise Tree, Christmas hopes of the little folk.

BAKER BOUND OVER TO JURY

Jesse Baker was bound over to the grand jury Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock when he appeared before United States Commissioner C. E. Eberhard for preliminary hearing. Baker was unable to give the \$2500 bonds fixed by the federal judge. He was taken to Portland by Deputy United States Marshal Lee Morlock late Saturday night.

Ex-Saloon Keeper Sent Up On Liquor Charge

Ernest Thorson, at one time a saloon keeper in Union county, was fined \$400 and sentenced to 29 days in jail Saturday at 2:30 o'clock when he pleaded guilty before Justice Hugh E. Brady to a charge of possession of mash.

Thorson had his still, a three-gallon affair, operating when the place was raided by George M. Pierce, assisted by W. A. McKendrick and a federal officer.

About a week before the raid, the still had blown up. Thorson had just worked it over and was running a quantity of raisin mash when officers arrived.

John P. Rusk Badly Hurt In Encounter

Former La Grande Attorney's Skull Fractured in Fist Fight with Politician.

John P. (Jerry) Rusk, at one time speaker of the house of representatives, serving Wallowa county, and later city attorney for La Grande, is in a serious condition at his home at Newcastle, Wyo., as a result of injuries he sustained in an encounter with James A. Greenwood, whom he defeated at the last election for district attorney's office in that county, according to word received by friends here.

Rusk was struck a blow over the right temple, fracturing his skull and causing a clot of blood to form against the brain. Partial paralysis of the right side followed.

Physicians summoned from Denver and Sheridan prescribed complete rest for 20 days, at the end of which time a consultation will be held to determine the advisability of an operation.

The clash between Rusk and Greenwood is said to have followed a charge by Rusk that his defeated opponent was still in possession of a typewriter and law books belonging to the prosecuting attorney's office. Rusk is supposed to have prepared a resolution for adoption by the commissioners, embodying the charge and demanding the return of the property.

Commissioners Saw Struggle. The commissioners are alleged to have witnessed the struggle without any effort to prevent violence. Mr. and Mrs. Rusk left La Grande about seven years ago to make their home at Upton, Wyo. They removed to Newcastle upon his election to the district attorney's office.

Prior to coming to La Grande, the Ruskhs lived at Joseph, from where he served as state representative. Before he went to the capital, Rusk engaged in the practice of law as a partner of Oct. P. S. Ivanhoe, and while the latter was district attorney for Wallowa and Union counties, Rusk acted as first deputy in Wallowa county.

Santa Claus Visits Members of Forum

Thirty-five members of the Men's Forum of the Methodist Episcopal church observed Christmas yesterday when they met at the church in regular session at 2:45 o'clock. Christmas carols and a Christmas tree were features of the morning's program. Gifts were presented to the Rev. H. W. Parker, pastor of the church, and E. D. Towler, leader of the forum. Christmas remembrances were also given each member present.

E. D. Towler gave an excellent talk on "What Christ's Progress."

Landis High Scorer in Club Shoot Yesterday

Merchandise orders as prizes to pleased the participants in the Wing, Fin and Fleethorn club's trap shoot at the Lane Tree field Sunday morning that officers have decided to follow the plan in all future contests.

Instead of giving live birds to the winners as had been done in the past, the club presented the successful sportsmen with orders on local merchants for a stipulated purchase of merchandise.

Dr. H. P. Landis got three orders for dressed turkeys. Other winners were Carlyle, Kelley, O'Brien, Kingsley, Paul, Sailer, McAllister, and Charles Smith.

Any merchant desiring to enter the club's patronage is invited to call L. B. Hammeffeld, club secretary, to arrange for orders.

GRANGE HOLDS XMAS PROGRAM

The Blue Mountain grange welcomed Santa Claus at a meeting at Grange hall Saturday and in his honor a Christmas program was presented.

Mrs. H. A. Macgregor, chairman, had charge of the program which was replete with appropriate songs and readings.

In due time Santa arrived and distributed candy for all as well as presents among which were a new pair of shoe soles for W. R. Gekeler to replace the ones he has worn on organizing granges, a view for Mrs. Frohman, a pair of shoes for Mrs. Wright to hold her hair with, a collection of sport articles for the best man, Mrs. Spencer, and gifts for other guests equally appropriate. It is reported.

Three applications were received in the business meeting, and reports were given from the Pommers grange meeting at Wolf Creek.

Walks



Eleanor Sears, Boston society leader, walked 44 miles from Providence, R. I., to Boston, Mass., in a little more than 11 hours. She bet Howard Sturges she could do it in less than 15 hours. Photo shows her on her way.

DECISION IS GIVEN ON WILL

Judge J. W. Knowles, of the circuit court, today handed down a lengthy written opinion upholding the will of December 18, 1922, and setting aside an order submitted the will of July 8, 1922, of the late Judge John W. Bell, of Portland.

The Bell will case has been attracting considerable attention in Portland and Judge Knowles' decision has been eagerly awaited.

The will of December 18 makes Miss Ruth V. Murphy, chief clerk of the district court of Multnomah county, residuary legatee, while this will of July 8, 1922, made Mrs. Emma Galtrop residuary legatee.

Judge Knowles in his opinion holds that Judge Bell possessed testamentary capacity when he executed the will of December 18, 1922, and that the will was his free and voluntary act without influence from anyone.

"There is not a particle of evidence to show that Miss Murphy influenced the execution of the will and the testimony shows that she did not even know of the execution of the will of December 18, until after the death of Judge Bell," the opinion declares.

THREE 'RABID' DOGS KILLED

WALLOWA, Ore. (Special)—The recent appearance of rabid dogs in this section of the county has caused considerable alarm. Three dogs are reported to have been killed in this end of Wallowa county during the past few weeks, all of which were suspected of being "mad."

Every precaution is being taken to prevent a spread of the dread hydrophobia. The belief is held that should the disease gain foothold serious trouble would result and damage to stock result.

Mrs. Amanda French, who was bitten by a dog a few weeks ago, and who was given the serum treatment, is reported to be recovering nicely.

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FIRST DAY OF WINTER WHITE ONE

Autumn Officially Vanishes While Snow Blankets La Grande

SIX-INCH COVERING WELCOMES SEASON

Snowstorm Practically Assures Grande Ronde Valley of a White Holiday Season.

Frost expressed last week, that La Grande would find Christmas time devoid of snow, were expelled this morning when the population awakened to view a six-inch blanket that practically assures a white Yuletide for the Grande Ronde valley.

The snowfall, the heaviest yet this year, was accompanied by moderate temperatures and a fair wind that caused drifts in some parts of the city. Citizens found themselves confronted with the annual task of unlimbering the snow shovels and the city put nearly its entire force of workmen on the streets in order to clear a way for pedestrians.

Farmers Not Displeased. Automobiles found the going difficult, especially when not equipped with chains. Backing from the curb called for the most expert driving.

Farmers of the valley are not displeased with the snow as it gives the winter wheat a protective covering against freezing weather. Wallowa county had its first real touch of winter weather last Sunday when a considerable amount of snow fell, according to The Observer's correspondent at Wallowa.

"The weather has been amazing," he writes, "and the snow has not melted much. While the ground was hardly covered in the valley, higher up in the hill sections the snow reached a depth of several inches."

Snowfall General. "The fall wheat in many fields is not covered deeply enough with snow to be thoroughly protected should freezing weather set in, but the ground is not frozen much at this time."

Reports indicate that the snow fall is general in Eastern Oregon.

According to astronomers, weather bureau experts, and others

(Continued on Page Four.)

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French War In Syria Is Sanctioned

Policy of Government Has Backing of Chamber of Deputies—Vote Reveals Feeling.

PARIS (By the Associated Press)—The policy of the French government in carrying out its mandate in Syria has the backing of the chamber of deputies.

By a vote of 500 to 29, the plenary late last night after a long debate upheld the government's activities in the mandated territory. During the debate General Sarraill, former high commissioner in Syria, heard violent attacks against his rule by some members of the chamber. Premier Briand, however, defended his regime.

Monastic hostilities continue in Syria. The Druses have invaded Lebanon following the withdrawal of French forces from the Mount Hermon region to Damascus.

ONE MAN, FIFTEEN WOMEN TEACHERS TAKE STATE EXAM

Eight of the 16 Union county teachers who took the state examinations under supervision of Superintendent E. A. Sayre at the court house week were members of the La Grande teaching force.

The only man among the applicants was L. A. Campbell, of Hillgard. Four of the women were sisters teaching in the Sacred Heart Academy.

Following is the list of all who wrote the examinations: Mrs. Faye Hug, Summerville; Miss Iva Jane Ware, Gray; Mrs. Rowena Dobbin, Union; Mrs. Gladys Doty, Elgin; Miss Francis Ida Roberts, North Powder; Mrs. Beale L. Fletcher, Cove; Miss Mary Gilliam, Kamela; L. A. Campbell, Hillgard; Miss Beryl Jones, Miss Mildred Lovett, Mrs. Della M. Damon, Mrs. J. H. Leah, Sister Gabriel Marie Malloy, Sister Maria Toole, Sister Braden Shuck and Sister M. Rosalie Delort, all of La Grande.

Mrs. Mabel W. Cleaver assisted the superintendent in giving the tests.

Speaker Refuses to Convene Legislature

AUSTIN, Tex. (By the Associated Press)—Lee Satterwhite, speaker of the Texas house of representatives, today declined to call a special session of the legislature.

118 Public Works Contracts in 1925

WASHINGTON (AP)—The navy bureau of yards and docks during the fiscal year 1925 awarded 118 public works contracts for \$4,196,274 as against 112 for \$3,678,354 the previous year, no cost-plus contracts were let, all being by competitive bidding after due advertising with the award going to the lowest bidder.

The bureau's annual report, made public today, said the bureau's list of properties owned, leased, or occupied for naval purposes totaled \$73,737,000. The properties owned numbered 484, leased 256, and occupied by permit 125. Some of these properties, it was stated, will be relinquished to congress for disposition this year.

SECOND CAR OF LIQUOR SEIZED IN CALIFORNIA

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The second freight car load of liquor shipped here from Los Angeles within a week was seized by federal prohibition agents at Richmond early Sunday morning and transferred to this city under heavy guard. The seizure consisted of 300 cases of whiskey and fine liquors and is valued at approximately \$150,000.

With the aid of detectives of the Santa Fe railroad prohibition officers seized the first car of liquor here Friday night.

SUNDAY RAPS MODERNISTS

CHICAGO (AP)—The Rev. William "Billy" Sunday, evangelist, returned Sunday to where he was converted 27 years ago to deliver three fiery attacks on modernists and rum.

"Science and religion can never be reconciled," he said at Moody church in attacking modernists in religion. "If we're going to believe these modernists who attack old-time religion, we might just as well tear down our churches."

"Devil run our churches," he continued. "He's whipped out. Prohibition is here to stay."

Bob Stays "Progressive"



Senator Robert M. La Follette, Jr., who follows in his father's footsteps. He recently warned Republican senate leaders that he would adhere to Progressive views.

DRY TIDE NIL, BUTLER SAYS

NEW YORK (By the Associated Press)—The tide of public opinion has definitely turned against prohibition, in the belief of Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia university.

Last week's senate debate was the beginning of what will be a successful movement to reform the "present intolerable situation," he thinks.

RECORDS STOLEN

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Prohibition headquarters were searched today for government records stolen from its files, while dry advocates planned means of more completely opening the doors of suspected private homes to prohibition agents.

The missing records concerned the much discussed Mayflower hotel liquor case in which an agent spent nearly \$1000 in arresting two men who were subsequently acquitted.

Prohibition Commissioner Hayes revealed that papers had been stolen just prior to the trial of the two men.

Cane Carrying Passe In Bostonian Circles

BOSTON (By the Associated Press)—Cane carrying, once a Boston vogue, has come the way of silk hats, double-breasted frock coats, round cuffs and mutton-chop whiskers.

Those who mournfully look back at the days when canes from Boston bill were never without canes, admit that nothing short of a social revolution will abort a revival of the fad.

Chang's Army Suffers Another Major Defeat

TOKIO (By the Associated Press)—Vernacular newspaper dispatches from Mukden unanimously report that the forces of General Kuo Sung Ian, commander of the national people's army, have occupied Shinminfu, 25 miles north-west of Mukden, after defeating Marshal Chang Tso Lio, Manchurian dictator.

CAVE-INS TO BE STOPPED

EUGENE, Ore.—Plans of the Southern Pacific company to remove a large quantity of rock and earth from the hillside on the Eugene-Klamath Falls line on both sides of the village of Jasper, where the slopes have been caving in at intervals for several years, and to use the material to widen the county road at the edge of the right-of-way were discussed yesterday when engineers of the company and county officials studied the site and made tentative arrangements to carry out the plan.

The company will build a small track to carry the dirt and rock across the county road, damper over the river embankment.

BRITISHERS SCORED IN CONGRESS

Accused of Acting in Bad Faith in Rubber Price Manipulation

REPRESENTATIVES AUTHORIZE INQUIRY

Congressman Hull Says British Government Is Fleecing U. S. to Pay War Debts.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Investigation of alleged manipulation by the British colonial government of the price of crude rubber and other raw materials was ordered today by the house.

A resolution directing the house commerce commission to conduct an inquiry was adopted after Representative Hull, of Tennessee, former chairman of the Democratic national committee, had charged Great Britain with "acting in bad faith" in the matter.

"The British government is laughing out loud at us. It openly is proclaiming that it intends to collect four billion dollars from us in increased rubber prices to pay its war debts," he declared.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—The present inclination in official circles here is either to send an official American representative to take part in preparations for the league of nations disarmament conference or else remain outside of the negotia-

CHIEF NAMES ALABAMA MAN

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—President Coolidge decided today to give the south representation on the interstate commerce commission.

He nominated Richard V. Taylor, of Alabama, to succeed C. C. McChord, resigned.

The president re-submitted to the senate the nomination of Thomas H. Woodlock, of New York, serving as interstate commerce commissioner under a recess appointment. The senate last spring declined to approve of Woodlock's nomination.

McCAMANT ACCEPTED

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—The nomination of Wallace McCamant, of Oregon, for judge of the ninth circuit court, was favorably reported today by the senate judiciary committee.

"Young Bob" Refuses To Ride Dad's Reputation

(By George Britt) WASHINGTON (Special)—1926 people get somewhat used to him as Senator La Follette and not merely as "Young Bob," the junior senator from Wisconsin, is going to be undulyly staid and reserved.

He phrases the policy himself by saying, "I want to avoid any 'cousinship' of the job."

During the clamor of discussion as to whether he should be accepted as a Republican by the regular organization, he kept quiet. When he was invited to make after-dinner speeches by organizations of all kinds and stripes, he sent regrets. When urged to go on lecture tours he refused.

The band is playing, the ring-masters are cracking their whips and the grandstand, goodness knows, is eager enough—but young Senator La Follette won't dance out into the spotlight and do his tricks.

He isn't hibernating or retreating. He isn't mothering or retreating. He isn't mothering or retreating. He isn't mothering or retreating. He isn't mothering or retreating.

Many Friends "Young Bob" in the glow of the session's opening is just about the most conspicuous and interesting figure in the senate. In addition to being on that account in a particularly hazardous position and having more than a normal number of political enemies, there are personal dangers. For instance he might become "classified," early and finally, as just his father's name-sake or his mother's boy.

The later was a possibility as near as ever confronted a United States senator. Mrs. La Follette had been the partner of her hus-

band. She exercised a keen political eye and a guiding hand as did few senators wives. She was considered seriously as a candidate to succeed her late husband.

Those who knew "Young Bob" haven't felt any danger that he would fall to be his own man. His father, of course, is a hero and a guiding example to him, but he is asking no favors in his father's name. His mother has begun the large task of writing her husband's biography and probably will pay less attention to public affairs this session than for many years.

In the quiet manner of the present senator La Follette there is a more ominous suggestion of future potency than if he were entering with fireworks.

De Doesn't Look It. One's first impression is surprise that this talked-of person is so short in stature. He is inches below average height, no taller than his father, although bull-dogish in build. He looks even younger than his 30 years. There is no strut in his manner, and he wouldn't be picked out in the street care for a senator.

But all down and talk with the friendly young chap. Look into his assured, cool blue-gray eyes and listen to his clear-cut speech. There are traces of the boy's remaining, but they are well buried in the mind trained by eight years' steady handling of senatorial affairs, both in his father's office and in campaign.

"I realize," he tells you, "that because of my father's name and my youth and things of that sort, I am getting a lot more attention



BEFORE CHRISTMAS