

SCHOOL AGE POPULATION SHOWS GAIN

Increase of 142 More Than Last Year Noted in La Grande

TOTAL GAIN FOR COUNTY FIFTY-TWO

Growth in This District Out of Proportion with Others, E. A. Sayre's Census Shows.

A distinct gain in the school populations of La Grande and Union county is shown in the recently completed census. It is announced today by E. A. Sayre, county school superintendent.

The total number of persons between the ages of four and 20 in Union county this year is 5385 compared with 5333 last year, a gain of 52.

In La Grande the school population is 2496 this year compared with 2354 last year, a gain of 142.

The only decrease shown during the year in totals is in the number of girls in the county, which dropped from 2617 in 1924 to 2598 this year, a decrease of 19. Sixty-one more boys are shown, however, which accounts for the total gain of 52.

The figures are as accurate as possible considering the fact that districts 2, 8 and 25 are joint Union-Baker county areas and No. 60 is a joint Umatilla-Union county district. Population in these four areas is 273.

Boys Outnumber Girls. Although boys outnumber girls in the county totals by 139 and in La Grande by 12, the situation has been reversed in this city since last year when the total number of girls was 20 more than the male population.

In 12 districts out of a total of 53 the girls outnumber the boys and in two districts, No. 7 and 51, the population is evenly divided.

Figures Given. Results of the census, with comparisons for La Grande and Union county, follow:

La Grande: 1925—Male, 1254; female, 1242; total 2496; 1924—male, 1167; female, 1187; total 2354.

Union county: 1925—Male, 2787; female, 2598; total, 5385; 1924—male, 2716; female, 2617; total 5333.

One reason for the increase in (Continued on Page Five.)

FOUR FINED IN JUSTICE COURT

Five persons charged with violations of state traffic laws appeared before Judge Hugh E. Brady, in the justice of peace court, this morning and five of the number four were found guilty and sentenced.

The fifth, E. F. Peterson, who was arrested on a charge of driving while intoxicated, pleaded not guilty. He was released upon furnishing \$300 cash bond. Time for trial has not yet been set.

The results of the other cases are as follows:

E. K. Hunter, speeding, fined \$10 and costs; Clay Laman, reckless driving, fined \$10 and costs; W. R. McKittick, of Boise, speeding, fined \$10 and costs; Austin Martin, driving without an operator's license, fined \$10 and costs.

Fireless December Here Is Hope of Fire Chief

With only two more days left in December, C. O. Marchison, fire department chief here, has hopes of a perfect record for the month as far as fires are concerned.

To date, the track has not been outside the station this month on a call, which speaks well for conditions in general in La Grande. Ordinarily the month of December is one of the worst for fires of the entire year, largely because of cold weather which results in many blazes originating from overheated stoves and similar causes.

Last December a large number of fire calls occurred, two of which resulted in the death of three persons. Mr. and Mrs. W. Church were burned to death in a fire that destroyed their home on Second street between Adams and

Stole Wife?



Lionel Atwill, the actor (above), has sued his wife, the former Elsie Mackay (below), for divorce, naming Mrs. Montesele, another actor. Atwill had befriended Montesele, taking him into his New York home. Mrs. Atwill is alleged to have left for England with Montesele, where Atwill charges Montesele with a wife and children.

WILL CONTINUE ARBITRATION

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Formal announcement of the early return of General John J. Pershing to the United States was made today at the state department.

At the same time President Coolidge made it clear that there would be no withdrawal by him as arbitrator in the Teana-Aric question. The president indicated he would not consult Pershing concerning Chile's appeal against one of the general's decisions.

It was said at the state department that his trip has no diplomatic significance.

Skaters Cavort on Ice Near Klamath Falls

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. (By the Associated Press)—Local residents enjoyed ice skating last night on ponds near Klamath Falls.

SKATING AT PERRY.

Skaters have been enjoying themselves on the pond at Perry and on other ponds near La Grande since Sunday.

MINE BLAST KILLS EIGHT

MEXICO CITY, (AP)—Delayed reports have reached Mexico City that eight miners were killed and more than 40 injured in an explosion in a government railway coal mine near Chihuahua.

Fireless December Here Is Hope of Fire Chief

Washington avenue and Mrs. Knapp, the mother of Horace Knapp, street superintendent for the city, was burned so badly in a small fire that she never recovered.

Property loss ran into the thousands during December, 1924. Incidentally, Mr. Marchison feels that his better than could have been selected to remodel the fire station. The greater part of the work has been done during the present month and with no fire calls, nothing has occurred to hinder the workmen.

Weather conditions so far this month have been ideal. The coldest weather of the season was in November when the mercury dropped to 29 degrees above zero. The coldest mark this month was 72 degrees above.

BUDGET IS ADOPTED AT POLLS 64-14

Local School District Assured of Sufficient Funds for Year

SPECIAL TAX IS GIVEN MAJORITY

Only Eighteen Oppose the Proposal to Levy Special Tax Which Exceeds 6 Per Cent Increase.

Both measures presented to the voters of school district No. 1, which comprises La Grande and the territory immediately adjacent, were approved of by comfortable majorities.

A total vote of 80 was registered which is considered above the ordinary for a school election of this type. Of that number 64 favored the levying of a special tax for the year 1925 which exceeds by more than 6 per cent the special tax levied by said district for the preceding year by levying a tax of \$108,637.24 for the present year, and only 18 opposed the measure.

LOCAL QUINT TO PLAY U. A. A.

A La Grande amateur basketball team, composed mostly of M. I. A. players, will meet the strong Union Athletic association quintet at Union at 7:30 o'clock this evening. It is announced today.

31 YEARS NEEDED TO ACCUMULATE MILLION DOLLARS

BOSTON (By the Associated Press)—Thirty-one years ago a 14-year-old apprentice mechanic in the shops of the New York Central railroad told a little group of grape-growers companions that when he had made a million dollars he would retire. They laughed and told him he needed never worry over millionaire retirement on his 16 cent an hour wages.

Students May Return To College in Special

It might students in this district make reservations on any one day for the return trip to Eugene or to Corvallis they may ride in a special car as far as Portland, according to announcements today by J. H. Kenney, A.

F. A. Russell Promoted To Rank of Sergeant

WASHINGTON (Special).—By showing aptitude for his military duties, Alexander Russell, formerly of La Grande, Oregon, has been promoted to the rank of sergeant in the marine corps, according to an official list of promotions recently received at marine corps headquarters here.

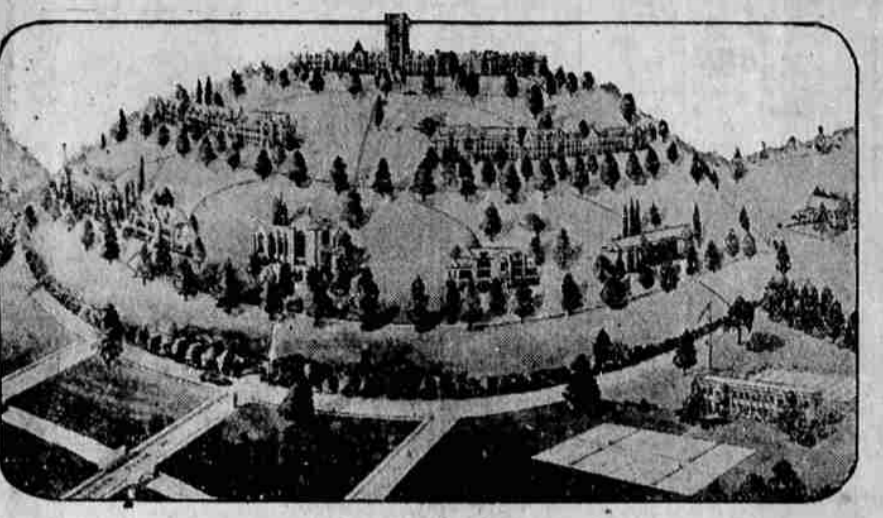
Steadily At It For 8 Years

A La Grande business man remarked the other day that he came to La Grande to enter business eight years ago and that every issue of The Observer since that time has carried his advertisement.

Shenandoah Relics Exhibited

PENNINGTON, Ore.—Fragments of the helium gas bag, the inclosing gray silk bag and a small piece of the aluminum frame of the giant dirigible Shenandoah that was wrecked September 8 at a local store in the windows of a local store. The souvenirs were obtained by Rev. J. M. Cornelson, missionary to the Indians on the Umatilla reservation, while he was doing field work in Ohio during the fall for the national board of missions of the Presbyterian church.

How Bryan Memorial University Will Look



Here is the architect's drawing for Bryan Memorial university, which is to be built at Dayton, Tenn., to commemorate the great commiserate's fight there against the theory of evolution.

E. F. CARLETON ENTERS RACE

EUGENE, Ore. (Special to The Observer)—E. F. Carleton, of Eugene, today announced his candidacy, subject to the approval of the voters of the Republican party at the coming primary election, for the office of superintendent of public instruction.

Mrs. Carleton submits his candidacy and will make his campaign on the ground that he is fitted by training and experience for the position. For thirteen years he was assistant superintendent of public instruction, and for two years was field representative of the University of Oregon.

Through these positions he has become familiar with the school problems of every section of the state. His early youth was spent in Union county, Oregon. After completing all of the work there, he took post graduate work at the University of Oregon.

His experience as instructor includes work in the rural schools of Oregon as teacher, and as principal and superintendent of schools at Joseph, Albany and Eugene, in addition to serving three years as instructor of the Lincoln high school in Portland.

Mr. Carleton has had much to do with the planning of the state course of study, working out a standard for rural schools, inspection of high schools and promoting advanced school legislation.

He has written many articles on the educational system of Oregon, a number of which have attracted national attention. One of his recent articles in the Journal of Education, Boston, brought him a letter of commendation from the United States bureau of education.

Mr. Carleton served as president of the State Teachers association, and was for four years a member of its executive committee. He was director of the Oregon Educational exhibit at the Panama Pacific exposition at San Francisco in 1915, and for eight years was in charge of the education department.

Candidate



E. F. Carleton, of Eugene, who announces his candidacy for superintendent of public instruction in Oregon today.

Currencies Stabilized During Year

NEW YORK (By the Associated Press)—Re-establishment of sterling exchange on a gold basis and its return to virtual parity for the first time since the war has been the outstanding monetary achievement of a year distinguished for the progress made in stabilizing the currencies of the world.

The success of Great Britain in restoring and maintaining the gold standard influenced other European nations to begin preparations for similar action. Laboring under less favorable financial and trade positions, however, some of the continental countries, such as Belgium, France and Italy, are faced with the necessity of devaluing their currencies on a new gold basis.

With the aid of American credits and loans, Belgium and Italy already have made substantial progress in putting their financial houses in order preliminary to restoring the gold standard. With their war debts to the United States, satisfactorily funded and their budgets virtually balanced, both governments are merely awaiting a propitious time to devalue their currencies on a new basis.

France, hindered by domestic financial difficulties and the delay in settling its American debt, has made less progress, but bankers believe that within the next year the currencies of all three countries will be established on a new gold parity below 5 cents.

Conservatives Bring Parity Early in 1925 it became apparent that sterling was nearing the end of its long journey back to par after the vicissitudes of war and post-war depression. With the return of the conservative to political power in Great Britain, the exchange already had secured a considerable recovery and at the beginning of the year it was quoted around \$4.75.

The new government, under the guidance of Chancellor of the Exchequer Winston Churchill, had careful plans for the re-establishment of a free gold market in England and the progress of its program was matched by a steady rise in the price of sterling. Unusual precautions were taken to insure the success of the venture.

Sir Montagu Norman, governor of the Bank of England, came to the United States and negotiated credits of \$400,000,000, of which \$200,000,000 were supplied by the federal reserve bank and \$100,000,000 by J. P. Morgan & Co.

Thus fortified, Great Britain late in April took the important (Continued on Page Five.)

Roumanian Flood Toll Set at Hundred Lives

VIENNA (By the Associated Press)—One hundred lives have been lost in floods along the Roumanian frontier, according to dispatches from Tordai. Flood waters are declared to be sweeping bodies and debris through the street of that city.

A tragic case is told of a family of five who took refuge on the roof of their home only to be forced off by fire, which broke out in the upper story. All were drowned.

DOUMER PLAN IS ACCEPTED

PARIS (By Associated Press).—The French cabinet today agreed to support the fiscal measures of Finance Minister Doumer. The ministers unanimously approved of his scheme for balancing the budget and stabilizing the franc and authorized the finance minister to introduce the plan in parliament.

Today's decision brought to an end the sharp race of the last 15 days between Premier Briand and leaders of the majority party on which he has relied in the chamber of deputies.

XTRA

DR. SWEENEY INDICTED MEDFORD (AP)—Dr. Charles T. Sweeney, prominent local physician, was indicted for perjury in a secret trial bill returned last Wednesday and made public today. The indictment arises from testimony Sweeney gave at the trial of Omer W. Murphy, convicted of manslaughter for the alleged beating administered Mrs. Murphy, from which she died. Sweeney was released on \$2,000 bond.

COOLIDGE IMPROVED PLYMOUTH, Vt. (AP)—While the condition of Col. John Coolidge, the president's father, is reported improved today, his physician said that it is improbable that he will fully recover the use of his lower limbs. The colonel has been unable to walk for several days.

INVITES INSPECTION NEW YORK (AP)—W. W. Inglis, spokesman for the anthracite operators conference and chairman of its negotiating committee, said today the operators were willing to open their books to public inspection.

PORTLANDERS LICENSED TO MARRY ALBANY, Ore.—Marriage licenses were issued here to H. R. Groves, of Portland, and Eleanor Everett, Lebanon; Monroe R. Cooley, student at North Pacific Dental college, Portland, and Vereta DeVaney, Albany; Lyle Alger Davis, Lowell, Ore., and Violet Leach, Corvallis; and C. A. Bender, Albany, and Emma M. Smith, Lebanon.

Seeress Looks Into The Future--Sees Prosperity

LONDON (By the Associated Press)—British society is again speculating whether a bride has truly been found for the Prince of Wales? The speculation follows the announcement that Princess Astrid, niece of the King of Sweden, who is immensely popular with King George and Queen Mary, is to be a guest at Buckingham as soon as the period of mourning for Dowager Queen Alexandra ends.

(By George Brett) —Last to the words of the prophetess: "The air will be filled with flying ships, our people will be content, peace will smother all nations, the soldiers and the buyers of acres in the land of flowers will prosper, the Prince of Wales at last will marry and death will strike a great king."

These are a few of the things that will happen in 1926. Just wait and see. If you have any apprehensions at all if you ever crossed a 279th step on Friday the thirteenth, or knocked on wood, or gazed in a mirror on Halloween—here may

WHEELER IS WINNER IN LONG FIGHT

Senator from Montana Absolved of All Blame by High Court

INDICTMENTS ARE WIPED OFF BOOKS

Edwin S. Booth and Gordon Campbell Also Given Clean Bill of Health Today.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Senator Burton K. Wheeler, of Montana, today won a long fight to have all charges against him by the government wiped off the books.

The District of Columbia supreme court upheld the contention by Wheeler, who has already been acquitted in Montana, that a conspiracy indictment returned against him here, should be quashed.

A demurrer to the indictment, filed by Wheeler's counsel, was upheld.

Others Freed. The court also threw out indictments against Edwin S. Booth, former solicitor of the interior department, and Gordon Campbell, of Montana, indicted jointly with Wheeler.

The government charged that (Continued on Page Five.)

MIDWEST COLD WAVE BROKEN

ALBANY, Ore. (By the Associated Press)—This section of the Willamette valley this morning experienced the coldest weather of the year. The official thermometer registered 29 degrees above zero, the lowest point touched in 1925.

CHICAGO (By the Associated Press)—The holiday zero wave which overpread almost the entire country was broken Monday. While cold weather, in many sections below the season's normal, is expected for a day or two, the backbone of the wave was smashed when changing winds throughout the middle west caused the mercury to start a climb that did not stop until it had cleared the zero mark by a comfortable margin.

A toll of upward of two scores of lives, a property loss from fresh estimated at one million dollars in Chicago alone, and interference with telephone facilities and wire communications, were recorded. The largest death toll was in Chicago where 17 persons died in four days.

In Ohio 13 deaths were attributed indirectly to cold weather, most of them apoplextions. Weather forecasts indicated moderating weather continuing Tuesday and that it is moving eastward rapidly. The cold wave, before it had been partly checked, finally extended from the Rocky mountains to the Atlantic seaboard with the coldest points in the northeast and northwest.

Peace Everywhere. "The influence of Venus will be predominant and controlling almost throughout 1926," says Mrs. Spencer, one of the best known seeresses, coupled in personal readings with psychology. She has been asking the stars about the New Year.

"The United States Senate will not agree to our joining the world court without very extreme reservations." The administration tax bill will be adopted by the senate with but little change from (Continued on Page Five.)