EASTERN OREGON'S LEADING NEWSPAPER—TEN PAGES TODAY

CITY EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER
PORTLAND, (AP)— Oregon—Fair tonight and Saturday, considerable cloudiness or fogs in the valleys.

VOLUME XXIV. MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS LA GRANDE, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1926. MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS NUMBER 76

ELGIN FRUIT SHIPPED TO OLD WORLD

Weatherspoon Orchard Provides Apples for Europe Trade

50 CARLOADS SENT TO OUTSIDE POINTS

Average Price a Box Received Was Near One Dollar on Three Grades Placed on Market.

ELGIN, Ore. (Special to the Observer) —A record of the largest seasonal shipment of apples by an individual grower is that which will have been established by H. H. Weatherspoon, Elgin orchardist, when this year's pack is completed and on its way to market, about two weeks from now. Sixty-five cars will have been required to handle the large output from the Weatherspoon warehouse here.

To date this season the Weatherspoon orchard has yielded 50 carloads of Rome Beauties, Winter Bananas, Newton Pippins and Delicious apples, the last car having been shipped early this week. Apples enough to fill the 15 additional cars are still on hand, the grower states. Of the number of cars dispatched from Elgin the contents of 17 of them was exported to Europe; Liverpool, England and Hamburg, Germany having been the more noteworthy consignees. None of the apples brought an exceptionally high price, declares Mr. Weatherspoon, though the average price a box was "near" $1 on all three grades shipped.

Marketed Them Himself.

"I did my own marketing," said the grower, "and though this year apples were not high in either foreign or domestic markets, the profits are expected to show good dividends on the investment."

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E.O.L.P. VALUE TWO MILLIONS

The state public service commission, following hearings for revaluation of the property of the Eastern Oregon Light & Power company during the summer, have made public its findings, which show that the value of the entire utility property of the company actually used and useful for the convenience of the public, including a due allowance or stores and working capital, was on June 30, 1925, $2,186,000."

The items making up the above value are listed as follows: Organization $21,200, going business value $184,600, water power $96,100, physical property, electric $1,720,500, physical property, gas $73,900, Baker garage $10,800, and stores and working capital $38,900.

Entertains

Eight-year old Eddie Byer of Auburn, N. Y., pulled a Mellie Dunham for President Coolidge playing his violin at the White House.

VENISON FEED TO BE MONDAY

Two hundred or more sportsmen are expected to gather at the dining room of the First Methodist church Monday at 7 p. m. for the annual venison feed of the Wing, Fin and Fleetfoot clubs. A 1926 membership card entitles its holder to be present, according to L. B. Hannefield, secretary.

Through a general agreement of the members, election of officers — usually held in June — has been advanced to the date of the game feed. That will give the incoming officers opportunity to get the program of the club in hand before the fishing season opens. J. B. Smith is the present head of the organization.

No formal program of entertainment is planned.

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Judges Will Unify Circuit Court Rules

Judge J. W. Knowles is in Portland today attending a council of the circuit court judges of Oregon, held in accordance with the provision of a recent act of the state legislature that seeks to unify the rules of circuit court procedure. Heretofore, each judge has prescribed the rules of his court according to his own ideas.

SEINE RISE CONTINUES IN FRANCE

River Runs Higher and Higher—Situation Is Growing Graver

SUBURBS SUFFER; NO RELIEF SEEN

If Rain Stops, Which Is Not Probable, Peak of Flood May Be Reached Monday.

PARIS (By the Associated Press)—The River Seine continues to rise. Provided there is no rain during an interval, and there is very little probability that there will be, the river is expected to cease its upward trend Monday.

The situation in the suburbs is growing graver. While the high-water mark is below previous record levels, the damage undoubtedly will be far greater than in previous floods, for thousands of houses have been built on the river banks in recent years.

John Stricker Passes On Early This Morning

John Henry Stricker, a son of La Grande pioneers and one of the first generation of whites to be born here, died at the Grande Ronde hospital at 5 o'clock this morning. He would have been 50 years old the fifteenth day of next month.

Having served as deputy sheriff under Lee Warnick for nearly three years and occupied other positions as a law enforcement officer, Stricker was well known to the residents of this community.

He had not served in any such capacity, however, for the last two years, during which period he suffered from ill health. Not many months ago he underwent a major operation at the Hot Lake sanatorium. His condition was not considered critical until about a week ago.

Mr. Stricker was born in La Grande Feb. 15, 1876, the son of Henry John and Johanna Stricker, who numbered among the vicinity's earliest settlers.

While still a comparatively young man, the decendent went to California, where for a number of years he worked in the oil fields near Oakland, where his mother resided.

On his return, he was assisted as deputy by Sheriff Warnick. And sometime later, he worked as a lumberman in the Bowman-Hicks camps.

The funeral will take place at 2 o'clock tomorrow at the temple of the Elk's lodge, with the Rev. W. C. Ross, pastor of the Presbyterian church, preaching the sermon. Cecil Bolton, exalted ruler, will officiate at the rites. Interment will be in the Masonic cemetery.

Union High School Plays Given at Lake

HOT LAKE, (Special) — A group of Union high school students and their dramatic coach, Miss Alma Bracht, were responsible for patients and staff members of the Hot Lake sanatorium enjoying a very pleasant two hours Thursday evening. They presented at that time two one-act plays in which had previously proved popular in Union.

Between the plays, "Hearts to Mend," and "The Trying Place," a group of Union girls, dressed in old fashioned garb, gave a feature dance, while before the first play Dr. Fby entertained the audience with several of his after dinner stories.

Bethine Miller starred as the Pierrette of "Hearts to Mend" a fantasy by H. Overstreet. Ralph Connor, as Pierrot, and Henry Risley, the Tins-to-Mend-Man, were the others in this cast. The second play, a comedy by Booth Tarkington, was presented by Eva Hiatt, as Mrs. Curtis; Sidney Dobbin as "Launcelot" Briggs; Gracia Haggerty, as Mrs. Briggs; Helen Johnson as Jessie Briggs; Richard Van Houten as Rupert Smith; Eldred Hutchinson as Colonel Ingesby, and Murray Jensen, "The Voice."

Sandwiches and chocolate were served the young actors following the plays.

HUSKY SAILORS BALK AT EATING SEA GULLS

VANCOUVER, B. C. (AP)— Seagull pie, sharp roasts and sea weed disguised as vegetables on the menu of the Belgian liquor carrier Gertrude were too much even for the stout stomach of sailors, members of the crew of the vessel are contending in court here.

Driverless Car Plunges Into Window

Occupants of Machine Frightened But Unhurt —Baby Passenger Has Narrow Escape.

In one of those hairbreadth escapes with which fate now and then tickles her perverted fancy, Miss Catherine Cullen and her baby niece, Elizabeth Foley, careened a mad reverse circle through Adams avenue Thursday night as passengers in a driverless automobile that ended its wild career when it backed into the south display window of the Glass drug store.

Neither Miss Cullen nor the baby were injured, but the former, as soon as she had been helped from the car, went from hysterics into a fit of fainting. Holger M. Larsen and others who happened to be standing near carried the girl to Dr. A. L. Richardson's office above the drug store, where she was cared for until she regained control of herself.

The baby, meantime, had been turned over to her mother, Mrs. J. J. Foley, who was shopping across the street when the freakish accident occurred.

She had taken the older child with her, and left Catherine with little Elizabeth in her arms seated in the front seat of the car to await her return. Seeing Mrs.

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BOWERS FREED IN CHECK CASE

J. A. Bowers, alias H. K. Ross, was dismissed on a charge of forgery in the justice of the peace court Thursday afternoon for lack of evidence against him.

Bowers had been in jail since Tuesday, when he was arrested by Officer Priest, of the Bankers' Protective association, as the alleged author of a fabulous check.

PETERSON ON TRIAL

R. F. Peterson, charged with driving while intoxicated, is being tried in the justice court today. R. J. Kitchen is representing the defendant and Carl Helm is conducting the case for the state.

Peterson was tried once before on the same charge but the jury failed to agree on a verdict and a retrial was ordered.

Alarm Yesterday Ends 38-Day Fireless Period

For the first time in 38 days, the La Grande fire department was called to extinguish a fire yesterday afternoon, at 2816 North Second street. A defective flue had started a blaze in the home of C. E. Davis, Fire Chief C. O. Murchison states, which was quickly controlled. Damage will run from $25 to $30, it is believed.

The 38-day period without fires, coming in the winter time, sets a new record for La Grande, officials claim.

Largest

H. M. S. Rodney—largest battleship in the world—is launched at Birkenhead, England.

GRAIN RATE TOO HIGH, BOARD TOLD

South Dakota Man Testifies Before the I. C. C.

INCREASE WOULD HURT RAILROADS

D. L. Kelley, Rate Expert, Outlines Situation in Grain Belt of Northwest at Hearing.

KANSAS CITY (By the Associated Press)—The great grain belt of the northwest is paying its full share of transportation costs, and further increases would work a hardship on the farmer, D. L. Kelley, rate expert of the South Dakota railroad commission, testified at the interstate commerce commission freight rate hearing here.

Mr. Kelley furnished a report on the grain rate situation in the northwest, particularly North Dakota and South Dakota.

"I believe the railroads would be hurting themselves by imposing still further advances in their grain rates, from the Dakotas, considering the unusually high rates they are already charging. If the railroads must have additional revenue in their grain traffic, the burden should be placed on the traffic moving from districts closer to the markets. The long haul rates are already too high."

Mr. Kelley declared the average car mile earnings on wheat shipped from South Dakota averages 83 per cent more than in 1910, and that the car mile earnings on corn are 74.7 per cent higher.

Earnings High.

The present rates on wheat to the Chicago and Milwaukee markets yield an average car mile of more than 45 cents for long hauls. In 1910 the average wheat earnings were only 25 cents. The earnings on all grains, including wheat, corn, barley and flax, average about 43 cents a car mile on a 500-mile haul.

"Such high earnings, particularly with traffic moving such long distances, are, I believe, unquestionably adequate, if not already too high."

The indiscriminate variations existing at state lines, Mr. Kelley declared, should be leveled off, and that other adjustments should be made in the rates throughout the west, so that the freight burdens would be more evenly distributed.

Mr. Kelley said he farmed 275 acres last year in a representative district of South Dakota, managing the farm on a basis lower than the costs established by the state agricultural college and the United States department of agriculture, and lost $1100 on the venture be-

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CONVENTION WILL BE DECIDED UPON AT REALTY MEET

Sherwood Williams, one of the directors of the Northwest Real Estate association, is in Portland today, en route to Seattle, where he will attend the annual meeting of the president and executive officers of the association and its affiliated boards. The attending realtors are being entertained at a luncheon meeting today at the courtesy of Portland members.

William Miller, who was named La Grande's other representative at the Seattle meeting, is not yet decided about going. The sessions, however, do not open until Jan. 11, and continue through two days.

The conclave is of especial interest to La Grande because out of it will come the decision as to the time of La Grande's state convention next July. Local representatives have been instructed to ask for dates late in the month.

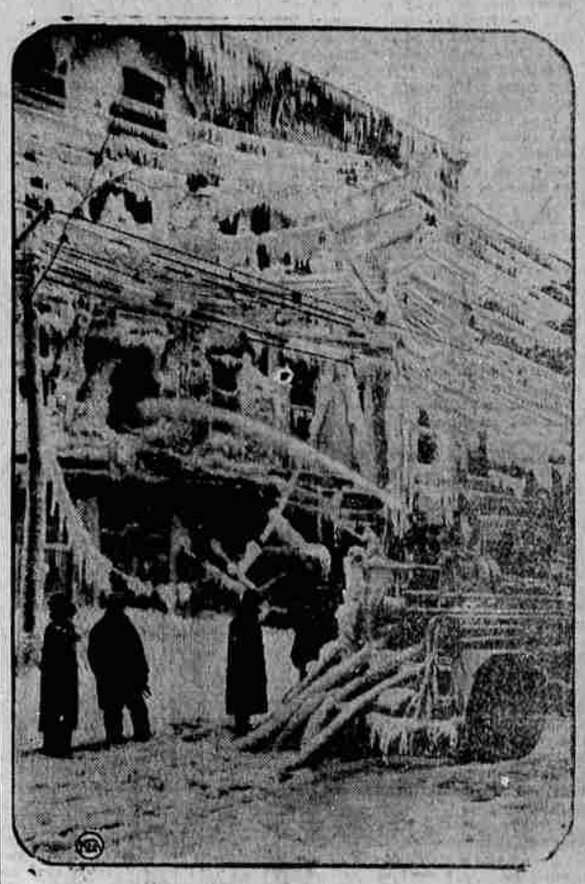
The committee in charge of the Seattle convention has announced an elaborate scale of entertainment. The annual dinner of the host city's real estate board is to be combined with a banquet to the visiting land men. A. H. Barbisel, of Tacoma, elected president of the association at the summer session at Bellingham, is to be installed during the session.

Champion Wins in Go At Portland, Oregon

PORTLAND, Ore. (By the Associated Press) — Tod Morgan, world junior lightweight champion, won a technical knockout last night over Sammy Campagne, of San Francisco.

Tommy O'Brien, local bantam, won a 10-round decision over Bud Davies, of British Columbia.

An Eastern Winter Scene



It was 2 degrees below zero at Wheeling, W. Va., when the firemen had to turn out to battle this blaze. Even while the building was ablaze great masses of ice formed across its front, and the hose lines can be seen wreathed in ice.

EARTHQUAKE ROCKS ITALY

SIENA, Italy (By the Associated Press)—Scores of persons suffered minor injuries and several hundred homes were damaged by a strong earthquake, lasting 12 seconds, which rocked the countryside today.

The entire population fled into the open.

A large section of Tuscany was affected, particularly the region around Monte Amiata.

Towns suffering most were Abbadia and San Salvador, where three persons were badly injured, and all houses were damaged.

APPLICATION OF FERTILIZER IS MEET SUBJECT

Talks were given by Karl Stackland, J. B. Love, Grover Duffy and others yesterday afternoon when about twenty prominent fruit growers of the Cove section met. The meeting was held to consider the purchasing of fertilizer for orchards in that vicinity. County Agent H. G. Avery and Mr. Seaney were in attendance.

Fruit growing in general was discussed in addition to the effects fertilizer would have on the cherry orchard there.

Men's Club Discusses Life of Empire Builder

With 13 members present the Men's club of the Presbyterian church met last evening at the home of the president, E. A. McEachran, with H. E. Dixon as the principal speaker of the evening. Mr. Dixon gave a very interesting talk on the life and work of James J. Hill, which followed by a general discussion.

Before adjournment lunch was served by Mrs. McEachran.

Staff of Life Turns To Corn in Grain Belt

CHICAGO (By the Associated Press) —"The staff of life" has been changed from wheat to corn in the grain belts. Golden corn meal mush, corn fritters, corn syrup, and even corn sugar are being used extensively. Faced with a crop surplus, farm leaders hope in this way to turn corn into a dividend for the growers or at least work off the excess surplus supplies.

BEES BEGIN SPRING WORK

THE DALLES, Ore.—More than 50 colonies of bees in the apiary of John Pashek of this city assumed that spring was here and became active, Pashek reported.

Some of the bees were swarming, which is unprecedented for January, while others were gathering honey and pollen from flowers which have burst into bloom since Saturday, the apiarist said. Warm breezes and clear skies have produced springlike temperatures during the last several days.

XTRA

THREE ARRESTED

PORTLAND, (AP)—The sheriff's office here announced today that three men are under arrest at Redding, Cal., who have been identified through photographs as members of a gang which held up banks at Troutdale and Scotts Mill, Ore., in December. The men are John and Norman Moore and Joe Billings.

FAMILY HOMELESS

NOGALES, Ariz. (AP)—Hundreds of families have been made homeless by floods during the last week in the state of Nayarit, Mexico, but no loss of life has been reported, says a special dispatch today from Tepic, capital of Nayarit. Forty-two inches of rain fell in 36 hours in Nayarit, causing all rivers to overflow their banks.

LAWRENCE HANGED

FLORENCE, Ariz. (AP)—William A. Lawrence, 27, of Muskogee, Okla., was hanged at the state prison here today for the murder of a Phoenix, Ariz., policeman last February. He protested his innocence. Lawrence played a guitar and sang a Spanish love song, until a few minutes before the time for execution.

ANDY SMITH PASSES IN EAST TODAY

Coach of California's Wonder Teams Answers Last Call at 6 A. M.

DECEDENT WAS ILL SINCE NOVEMBER

Football Mentor Stricken After Witnessing Pennsylvania - Cornell Game Thanksgiving Day.

PHILADELPHIA (By the Associated Press)—Andy Smith, football coach of the University of California, died at six o'clock this morning at the University of Pennsylvania hospital of a pulmonary abscess following bronchial pneumonia.

Smith was stricken after coming east to witness the Pennsylvania Cornell game Thanksgiving day.

Smith played football for the University of Pennsylvania in 1903 and 1904 and was named on the all-American team. After coaching Pennsylvania and Purdue universities he became coach at California in 1916.

DENNIS RAPS TAX POLICIES

PORTLAND, Ore. (Special). — Fear of more taxation in Oregon is keeping back prosperity and development of the state's natural resources, Bruce Dennis, state senator, of La Grande, declared here in an address delivered to members of Gul Reazee Grotto on the topic "What's the Matter With Oregon?"

He also denounced an official, but did not name him, who was elected to a high position on his promise that he would cut taxation in half, he said.

He showed that Oregon, with a population of less than a million persons, needs what he classed as selected emigration, settlers with capital, as Oregon is not a poor man's state, and was certain that the great requisite for Portland is more industries to create more payrolls. He described the agricultural condition of Eastern Oregon as languishing and confessed that he was wrong some time ago to favor the state income tax, as threat of the latter scared capital from Oregon.

OFFICIAL'S PAY RAISED

SALEM, Ore. — The state board of control at a meeting here increased the salary of J. Lyman Steed, new superintendent of the Oregon state school for the deaf, from $1500 to $1800 a year. Mrs. Steed, as matron, receives a salary of $720 a year.

Plans Measure To Settle Railroad Labor Disputes

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press) — Legislation for the settlement of railroad labor disputes began to take shape for submission to congress after President Coolidge had been apprised of agreements reached between the employers and employes on the subject.

Chairman Watson of the senate interstate commerce committee, who was a White House dinner guest Thursday night, W. W. Atterbury, president of the Pennsylvania railroad, and a delegation of heads of railroad unions, including D. D. Robertson, W. N. Doak and D. M. Jewell, with Donald R. Richberg, attorney for the labor organizations were among those who discussed the matter with the president.

Later Alfred P. Thom, counsel for the association of railway executives, who conferred with the president Wednesday, joined with Mr. Richberg in making public a statement declaring that railroad employers and employes had reached an agreement on legislation to create a board of mediation for railroad labor disputes, with provisions for arbitration in case mediation is not successful and also to authorize the president to institute investigation by a special board in case of threatened disturbance. The statement made no reference to abolition of the railroad labor board although this was understood to be implied in the proposal.

Summary of Measure.

The statement summarized the provisions of the bill as follows:

"First—That it shall be the duty of the parties to exert every reasonable effort to make and maintain agreements.

"Second — Adjustment boards shall be established by agreement which shall be either between an individual carrier and its employes or regional, or national."

These adjustment boards will have jurisdiction over any disputes relating to grievances or to the interpretation or application of existing agreements but will have no jurisdiction over changes in rates of pay, rules or working conditions.

"Fourth—A board of mediation is created to consist of five members appointed by the president and with the advice and consent of the senate with the duty to intervene at the request of either party or on his own motion in any labor dispute.

"Fifth—Boards of arbitration are provided for, when both parties consent to arbitrate, also the method of selecting members of the boards and the arbitration procedure. Any award made by the arbitrators shall be filed in the appropriate district court of the United States and shall become a judgment of the court, binding upon the parties.

"Sixth — In the possible event that a dispute between a carrier and its employes is not settled under any of the foregoing methods provision is made that the board of

(Continued on Page Five.)

Wallowa and La Grande Tossers Meet Tonight

Looking toward this evening and the first games of the basketball season, the La Grande students invited the Hi-Dads to join them in a special assembly and pep meeting at the auditorium this morning.

George C. Cochran and C. L. Larison gave short inspirational addresses, and were followed by E. D. Towler, principal, in a brief summarizing talk. Goldie Owen, captain of the girls' team, and George Glass Jr., who captains the men, appealed to the students for loyalty and support. Part of the period was turned over to Jack Coolidge, who brought the students to their feet in yells that made the auditorium ring. Wesley Brownton, president of the student body presided.

Goldie Owen's team will meet the Wallowa girls in the initial game on the gym floor at 7:30 tonight. Their brothers will follow them onto the court to repeat their victory, — or so the boosters contend.

The Wallowa boys and girls have arranged for a dinner party at the Foley hotel early in the evening.

Tomorrow night the blue and white tossers will meet the team from Enterprise. Both Wallowa county squads are said to be crossing the line with high hopes of carrying home all honors, and the La Grande boys are looking forward to a pair of fights.

Starting A New Business

A man came to The Observer office the other day to say that he was starting in business within a short time and wished to arrange for advertising. His business wasn't started, yet he realized the importance of being ready to inform possible customers when it was ready. And he expressed a desire to do steady, continuous advertising, even in a small way, to keep them informed. He knows that people must not only be acquainted with a new business when it starts, but they must be constantly reminded of it after it becomes an old business—that a successful business needs intelligent publicity after years of operation as well as when first begun. It is not a mere co-incidence that the biggest and most profitable enterprises of La Grande are also steady advertisers in The Observer.

"Observer Advertising— A Merchandising Service."