

COURT TERM WILL BEGIN ON MONDAY

Damage Suits and Criminal Cases Crowd the February Term

THREE CASES UP FROM ELGIN, ORE.

Jack La Bine and George Noble Will Be Tried in Circuit Court During Coming Month.

Damage suits and criminal cases crowd the calendar for the February term of circuit court, which convenes Monday.

Stated for the opening day in the case of Dr. C. B. Gauthier who seeks payment of a bill for professional services alleged to have been rendered Ralph W. Butcher, Hinga & Weight represent the dentist, R. J. Kitchen, the patient.

L. Denham will be counsel in three cases brought by Elgin Illigante; Tuesday is the case of Western Bond and Mortgage company versus J. H. Barnes, Jesse Crum to appear for the defendant; Wednesday, B. C. Heydeck against W. I. Keen et al who will be represented by Cochran and Eberhardt; Wednesday, O. R. Burne versus R. E. Turner, the donor to have Nichols, Haddock & Donald as lawyers.

Will Try Noble.

The state's case against George Noble, who appeals from the decision of the justice court convicting him on a charge of driving while intoxicated, is set for Friday. Carl G. Helm, district attorney, will prosecute. The defendant's attorney are Green & Hess.

Jack LaBine, appealing from justice court, will be tried for possession of liquor. The same attorney will appear as in the precedent.

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STILL OWNER ADMITS GUILT

Leland Thompson, one of three alleged violators of the prohibition law who were rounded up by the sheriff and three deputies Thursday morning after an all-night chase through the snow gale, was fined \$500 and sentenced to 30 days in the county jail this morning when he admitted to Judge Hugh E. Brady that he was the owner of much found in a dugout close by his shack near Medical Springs.

J. W. Barker and A. E. Emmons, the other two prisoners, entered pleas of not guilty to charge of illegal possession of liquor, and were released on bonds of \$500 each until 9:30 Tuesday, when they will be tried in justice court.

FINED FOR SPEEDING

H. M. Ashby paid a fine of \$10 and costs in justice court this morning, pleading guilty to a charge of speeding.

Conference Dates Set; March 12, 13 Selected

Winning By Comparison

When an advertiser makes an impartial comparison of the publicity means at his disposal—the cost per inch of reading matter as related to the number of readers—The Observer was immediate approval by a wide margin.

Its advertising staff advises use of varied advertising means to supplement newspaper space. Intelligent use of direct-mail publicity, for example, is of great value. But the Observer's pulling power is the foundation of successful advertising in this territory. Constant addition of new and increased accounts proves that fact.

"Observer Advertising—A Merchandising Service."

High School Art Contest Is Tomorrow

Eleanor Cleaver to Represent La Grande in County-Wide Competition Here.

Eleanor Cleaver will be La Grande's representative in the art essay contest for high schools of Union county, which will be held at 1 o'clock Saturday afternoon at the home of Mrs. E. P. Mossman. Miss Cleaver's essay on "Gainsborough's Blue Boy" won over those 12 other entrants in the preliminary contest in the high school here.

The finals in the art memory contest will be conducted at the library tomorrow.

Children who are competing for the \$25 prize offered by the art department of the Neighborhood club, are to be ready for the examination at 1 p. m.

High school students will meet by classes: seniors at 10 a. m.; juniors, 11 a. m.; sophomores, 2 p. m.; freshmen, 3 p. m.

Prizes in all art contests, including the picture memory contests among the grade school children that took place at the library January 16, will be awarded at a community meeting the second week of February at the high school auditorium. The program for the occasion is being arranged by the Neighborhood club committee, composed of Mrs. H. H. Cleaver, chairman; Messames J. D. Lynch and F. B. Appleby, and Misses Margaret Anson and Mabel Doty.

STUDENTS WORK UP PEP TO URGE TIGERS ON WITH

Pep for a strenuous series of four games in the home gymnasium tonight and Saturday night was generated at a special assembly in the high school auditorium this morning. Class competition figured in the yell.

Following several announcements, including information that this is the last day for ordering copies of the school annual, the freshmen were instructed to gather for the closing period this afternoon to hear an explanation of the student body, its organization and functions.

Wesley Brownson, president, John McKinstry, business manager, and other members of the executive committee, which includes the superintendent and the principal ex-officio, addressed the rookies late this afternoon, expounding the student body plan.

"Womanless Wedding" To Be Presented Here

Preparations are now under way for the presentation of "The Womanless Wedding," a burlesque extravaganza, to be given on the evening of February 11, at the First Methodist church. The play is being directed by Mrs. Carl Walker, Mrs. Sherman Williams and Miss Mabel Doty. It embodies sponsors say, about everything that would be desired in the nature of entertainment of real genuine fun in a clean, wholesome way.

The play is composed of local artists, many of La Grande's prominent business and professional men having consented to add to the color and gaiety that sparkles throughout the settings and situations.

Conference Dates Set; March 12, 13 Selected

Friday and Saturday, March 12 and 13, are the dates set for Union county's third annual economic agricultural conference, which will be held in the high school building here. Plans were made for the conference a week ago when the commodity chairman and others interested met at Hot Lake with W. F. Taylor, general chairman, but a definite date was not decided upon then.

NORTH DAKOTA PROJECT TO BE SOLD FOR \$50,000

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Williston reclamation project in North Dakota, which cost the government \$250,000, was ordered sold Thursday to W. R. Davidson of Williston, for \$50,000.

New Editor



Florence Eckfoel of Atlanta has been elected editor of "Fact and Fancies," publication of Washington Seminary, where she is a student.

DEATH CALLS LOCAL WOMAN

Mrs. Mary E. Staples, who died at Baker Wednesday night was well known in La Grande having formerly made this city her home for a number of years. The Staples were at one time in the grocery business here. The store, which was known as the Staples and Jennings company, was later sold to J. G. Snodgrass. They also had a general merchandise store at Hilliard previous to coming to La Grande. Edwin L. Staples, her husband, died two years ago this month at Baker.

Mrs. Staples owned a considerable amount of property in Union county. The twenty-acre tract of land on the side of the road next to the river owned by the La Grande country club until about a month ago, was purchased from her by the club.

She was 62 years old at the time of her death and is survived by two brothers and an adopted son, Franklin Staples, who is in the United States army, stationed at Fort Niagara, New York. Funeral services were held this afternoon at Baker.

CHEYENNE MAN IS ARRESTED IN PORTLAND TODAY

Leon Gardner, wanted in Cheyenne on several charges including larceny and forgery, was arrested in Portland by Sheriff George Carroll of Cheyenne, today after he had slipped away from La Grande city officers, who took Gardner and his wife into custody from a passenger train Thursday and lodged them, on their word of honor, at a hotel to await word from Cheyenne. Earlier instructions were insufficient for an arrest, the chief said.

Mrs. Gardner was still in town when Sheriff Carroll arrived here yesterday, but her husband had taken a night train for Portland. Mrs. Gardner, whose parents live at Vancouver, has been in the county jail since the Cheyenne sheriff left here yesterday.

Salvation Army Hall Is Crowded Nightly

Increasing crowds record the growing interest in the revival services that are held nightly in the Salvation Army hall on First street.

The Rev. P. L. Johnson directed the evangelistic service last night. Referring to the prophecy that "Every knee shall bow and every tongue confess," the preacher drew a word-picture of what he called "The World's Greatest Tragedy Meeting."

Fire Losses During 1925 \$36,528.66

Fire Chief Murchison Completes Report Today—Department Answered 56 Calls in Year

Completion of its annual report today shows that during the year of 1925 the total fire loss in La Grande amounted to \$36,528.66, a figure above the losses suffered in 1924, 1923, 1921 and 1920. C. C. Murchison, fire chief, declares.

The number of fire alarms during 1925 was 56, of which two proved false alarms. In addition to that seven fires occurred at which no alarms were given. Out-of-town calls numbered two.

The amount of insurance carried on buildings at risk during 1925 was \$64,475 and insurance on their contents \$50,550, a total of \$115,025.

\$27,400 Insurance Paid. The insurance paid on buildings last year was \$15,783.50 and the insurance paid on contents \$11,616.50, making a total of \$27,400.

The value of property at risk last year was \$125,425, which was less than property at risk in 1924, 1923 and 1922. The peak of these three years was 1922 when property at risk was valued at \$175,000.

1920 Record Year. Loss sustained by fire in 1924 was \$31,791.79; in 1923 \$15,326.70; and in 1922 the insurance loss was \$45,340.55. The record of 1920, when the total fire loss was only \$2386.26, still stands.

Murchison's report shows that of the 56 calls, 55 came over the telephone, seven by the box system, and three verbally. Seventeen lines of hose were laid—totaling 7300 feet. The truck traveled 62.9 miles to and from fires at an average speed of 20.4 miles an hour. Six hundred twenty volunteers answered five calls.

CLUB TO GIVE STUDIO TEA

Redolent of fresh canvases, of paint-splattered smocks and student skylights is the announcement that the Neighborhood club will entertain its members at a studio tea in the clubrooms at the library building Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

The studio tea prepares the way for the celebration of art week, which begins February 10 and includes as its feature, the grand award of prizes in the picture, poetry and essay contests at a community gathering in the high school auditorium.

More than 50 prints—pictorial copies of famous paintings—will be on exhibit at the improvised studio Tuesday. Centering about them, a program of short talks on the various schools of painting will be given. And there will be explanation, also, of the work that the children have been doing in the schools in connection with La Grande's first picture memory contest.

Central Boys Defeat Riviera In Close Game

A large number of La Grande basketball fans, who went to the game mostly out of curiosity, came away from the first grade school contest last night agreeing that high school athletes are not alone in their ability to furnish thrills and excitement galore on the maple court.

The parents who were in attendance knew that all the time, of course, but the ability of the youngsters, especially relating to defensive work and passing, was a real eye-opener for the others.

Central school's five won the first game of the first inter-grammar school basketball tournament last night at the high school gym 21 to 6, after two periods of overtime play. And although the score was low, the battle was a whizzer from start to finish.

J. K. FRONK ARRESTED IN CHICAGO

Man Who Swindled Los Angeles Banks, Taken After Long Chase

ADMITS CHARGES; WILL FACE MUSIC

Fronek, Who Declared He Was on Way Home, Will Waive Extradition, Reports Say.

CHICAGO (By the Associated Press)—J. K. Fronek, wanted on charges of bilking Los Angeles banks of more than \$300,000 was arrested here last night. He said he would waive extradition and would return to California immediately.

Fronek admitted, detective said, that he fled December 20, after being indicted for conspiracy to defraud, and said he was on his way back to give himself up after spending the last month in Seattle, Portland, New York and Chicago. Illinois officials prevented his return.

MRS. SAMUELSON WINS THOUSAND DOLLAR VERDICT

OREGON CITY, (By the Associated Press)—A verdict for \$1,000 was granted last night to Mrs. Samuelson by the Oregon Circuit Court in a suit against the Oregon school directors.

\$50,000 Expense Bill Approved by Senate

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—A favorable report on a bill appropriating \$50,000 for American participation in a preliminary American conference on the foreign relations commission.

GETS SENATE'S APPROVAL

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Congressional sanction for American participation in the league of nations preliminary conference was completed today when the senate approved the house resolution, appropriating \$50,000 for the expense of the American delegation.

Prince of Wales Is Recovering Rapidly

LONDON (By the Associated Press)—The Prince of Wales, who suffered a fractured collarbone in a fall while riding to the hounds yesterday, passed a good night and is making satisfactory progress today.

FIRE SWEEPS VILLAGE

MONTREAL (AP)—A large part of the village of Windsor Mills, Quebec 15 miles north of Sherbrooke, was destroyed by fire Thursday morning with a loss of \$200,000. No one was injured.

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The Church You Sing About



Remember the old song about "The Little Brown Church in the Dale"? Well, this is it—the 70-year-old church at Bradford, Ia., about which the song was written. Inset shows the pastor, the Rev. George Hanna. The church has lately become popular as a place for clippers to be married.

ARMY ACCEPTS RESIGNATION

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Colonel William Mitchell's resignation from the army has been accepted.

In accordance with Mitchell's wishes, he will be allowed to step out February 1, thus automatically ending the five-year suspension to which the court martial sentenced him. Mitchell declined to comment when informed his resignation had been accepted.

JEOPARDIZING STANDING

NEW YORK (AP)—Helen Whills is jeopardizing her amateur eligibility if, as reported, she has been writing current newspaper articles on her tournament play in France, President Mesereau, of the United States Lawn Tennis association, declared today. "I am quite sure Miss Whills has not knowingly broken any rules, and if she has had any misunderstanding, will immediately put herself right," he said.

RAILROAD MEN TO DEMAND MORE PAY ON NEXT MONDAY

NEW YORK (By the Associated Press)—The New York Times will say today that conductors and trainmen on all railroads of the country have been instructed by their union leaders to file a schedule of wage demands on February 1, which week the restoration of the wage scale fixed by the railroad labor board in 1920, the highest wage scale in the history of the railroads.

Speakers for the carriers say such restoration will increase the total annual expenses of the companies by \$50,000,000. Under orders of W. J. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, and L. E. Shepherd, president of the Order of Railroad Conductors, union representatives of the railroads will notify the management that an answer "in writing" to the demands will be expected by March 2.

First Dance of Band Series Here Tonight

The first of a series of monthly band dances will be held tonight in Zuber hall, beginning at nine o'clock with a 15-piece orchestra, scheduled to furnish the music.

XTRA REDUCTIONS APPROVED

WASHINGTON (AP)—The proposed reductions in normal income tax rates were approved today by the senate without debate in the first reading of the tax bill.

FAILS IN ATTEMPT

DAYTON, O. (AP)—After reaching an altitude of approximately 36,000 feet, Lieutenant John A. Macready, attempting to establish an altitude record, was forced to descend today when the super-charger on his plane failed to function properly.

BLAST KILLS ONE

TRENTON, Colo. (AP)—One man is dead and two others are unaccounted for out of 33 miners entrapped by a gas explosion in mine No. 3 of the Bear Canon Coal company near Berwin today. The two still in the mine might be dead, officials say.

STORM IS SPENT

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—A gentle breeze from the south was recorded today at North Head, at the mouth of the Columbia. The storm in the Pacific ocean has spent its force off shore, the local weather bureau has announced.

Princess Astrid Is In No Sense A Modern Flapper

LONDON (By the Associated Press)—Princess Astrid, the beautiful Swedish girl who may become Great Britain's crown princess, is no sense is a modern flapper.

She has long dark hair and a camellia-like complexion and flashing dark eyes. She is slender, of medium height and dresses with simplicity. Like the Prince of Wales, the princess is an accomplished dancer. She is an adept at all outdoor sports and is especially fond of croquet.

OREGON MAN ON GRILL IN CAPITAL

Judge McCamant Answers Charges Made by Sen. Johnson

TELLS OF DEALINGS WITH CORPORATION

Publicly Airs Relations with Organization Before Judiciary Committeemen.

WASHINGTON (By the Associated Press)—Wallace McCamant, of Oregon, who is serving a recess appointment to the fifth federal judicial district bench, today appeared before the senate judiciary committee to publicly answer charges lodged against him by Senator Johnson, Republican, of California.

McCamant told of his relations with the United States Spruce corporation, which Johnson named in his charges. McCamant said he acted as attorney in the organization of the spruce corporation and that he still owns a small amount of stock in that company.

Change Made In Senate. It has been charged in the senate that the spruce organization, organized to take over the interests in Oregon of the United States Spruce corporation, after the war, escaped local taxation by virtue of a sale contract, but ownership was to remain in the hands of the government corporation, until final payment in the deal had been made.

(Continued on Page Five.)

WINTER GRIPS NATION TODAY

CHICAGO (By the Associated Press)—Winter forces ran riot today from coast to coast, despite the fact they were promised only to the middle section.

In the face of heavy gales in the Pacific shipping belatedly mountainous seas and raced for shelter. Sweeping eastward, the cold wave brought deep snows, blocked highways, and impeded trains. Sub-zero temperatures caused numerous fires and intense suffering in large cities. Eastern sections reported the coldest weather of the season.

STORM BREAKING UP

SAN FRANCISCO (By the Associated Press)—The storm that struck the Pacific coast yesterday is breaking up today after leaving thick deposits of snow in high places and soaking lowlands with torrential rains.

The storm gave coast-wise shipping a few thrills, as it brought a high southwest gale along a 1,000-mile stretch of the coast line. Several big vessels, including the battleship Colorado, the navy's mightiest, attempted to put to sea from this port, but returned when officers saw the huge seas.

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