

CITY
EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER

Oregon: Unsettled; probably rain in north and west portions tonight and Friday.

VOLUME XXIV.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

LA GRANDE, OREGON, THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1926.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBER 135

LINE TAKE
STAND FOR
THE STATEProsecution Rests Case in
Hilary Trial Shortly
Before NoonOG THREATENED
BEFORE ACT, CLAIMTwo 11-Year-Old Neigh-
boring Girls Testify
That Hilary Said He
Would Kill Setter.Judge McCulloch denied the
motion of Hilary's counsel for a
directed verdict for the defend-
ant and the testimony of the de-
fense began at 2 o'clock this af-
ternoon with Hilary the first wit-
ness.The state at noon rested its case
against Jack Hilary, who is being
tried in circuit court here for al-
leged burning of Lewis Wetzel's
lawson setter, after having first
poured oil on the dog and set it
afire from a torch with which he
was working.Since witnesses were heard this
morning, including Wetzel, owner
of the dog, Chief of Police Haynes,
Sheriff Brethars, Mr. and Mrs.
Walter Bishop, neighbors, J. H.
Watson, who was working on the
tracks near where the dog fell, Eva
Mortner, the track cleaner, who
buried the dead animal, and two
11-year-old girls, Clara Hatt and
Josephine Imbrey, who testified
that they heard Hilary threaten to
kill the lawson.Judge James A. Poe, of Pendle-
ton, who cross-examined the state's
witnesses this morning, said at noon
that he could not be sure whether
Jack Hilary would be the first wit-
ness called for the defense this
afternoon.DOCKIES HERE
IN CEREMONIALDockies were present from Enter-
prise, Baker, and other
Eastern Oregon points last evening
when a D. O. K. K. ceremonial
was held here. One hundred mem-
bers were seated at a banquet table
in the K. P. hall at seven o'clock
and a chicken dinner was served
by the Pythian Sisters lodge.C. K. McCormick, royal Prince,
acted as royal viceroy and ten candi-
dates from the La Grande and El-
gin lodges were initiated. The Rev.
R. C. Poe, pastor of the Methodist
church at Wesport, Idaho, was
among the men of town guests.
Plans are being made for an-
other ceremonial to be held at
Pendleton about April 1, when a
class of about twenty-five will be
initiated. A large delegation from
La Grande will attend the meeting.High Dads Congratulate
Tossers, Honor Students16 New
Contract
AdvertisersDuring the past year a net gain
of sixteen new advertisers on
an annual contract basis has
been made—a most successful
indication for Observer coverage
and Observer results.An ever-increasing number of
businessmen would not spend
substantial appropriations in
the Observer each year unless
they were convinced of the good
accomplished. An advertiser not
getting the best results realizes
that it is his copy and plan that
are wrong. The reader-interest
and low readjustment of the Ob-
server gives him the most su-
perior medium available."Observer Advertising—
A Merchandising Service."Voters Will
Pass Upon
5-Man PlanCommission Seeking Ad-
visory Opinion on Pro-
posed Change in City
Government.La Grande voters will pass upon
a petition for enlarging the com-
mission from three to five mem-
bers at the May 21st election, it
was decided by the city today
last night. President A. T. Hill and
Commissioners Charles Playle and
R. P. Landis were all unwilling to
place a charter amendment upon
the ballot but were united in de-
siring an opinion from the citizens
as to whether they favored the
proposed change. They announced,
however, that should the vote be
favorable, a charter amendment,
providing for five commissioners,
four from wards and one at large,
would be placed upon the ballot at
the November general election.The decision followed an an-
nouncement by City Attorney
George T. Cochran that it would be
difficult to install commissioners
from wards until after August, 1927,
the time when the county court acts
all election precincts. He stated
that it would be necessary to have
the court so arrange the city pre-
cincts that they would work in
with the ward system, with two or
three precincts in each ward. At
first there was some doubt as to
how wards could be formed under
the present state law but Ed
Wright, attorney, who was present,
advanced the grouping of precincts
as a solution of the problem.A representative of the more
than 70 petitioners who sought the
enlargement of the body was placed
that dissatisfied because the char-
ter amendment will not be placed
on the ballot at the May elections,
declaring that the commission was
trying to "side step" the issue. The
commissioners, however, declared
that they felt that such an impor-
tant change in government should
be gone ahead with great care
and, not wishing to take the
initiative in the proposed plan,
desired to present it first to the
people for an advisory opinion.(Continued on Page Five)
O. A. C. CHEMIST
CLASSES WELL
WATER AS GOODW. C. Crowe, city manager, to-
day received a communication
from John Fulton, head of the
department of chemistry at the
Oregon Agricultural college, in
reference to a test he conducted
of a sample of water taken
from the municipal deep well here.The test showed that the water
is of a high quality, passing all
requirements with flying colors.
The water is slightly alkaline,
but in quantity only a little
over 47 parts a million," the
letter read.Total solids contained in the
water equal 112.4 parts a million.Ten High Schools to
Enter Typing ContestPENDLETON, Mar. 18. (AP).—
Ten Eastern Oregon high schools
will enter the typing contests to
be held in the local high school
tomorrow. Arlington, Baker, Cove,
Dufur, Condon, Enterprise, Pilot
Rock, Stanfield, Vale and Pendle-
ton are entered with possibilities
of others sending representatives.High Dads Congratulate
Tossers, Honor Students"La Grande has every chance to
get into the state tournament at
Salem next year, and perhaps to
represent Oregon at Chicago. The
only thing I know of now that'll
keep the boys from the champion-
ship is the fact that we haven't a
large enough gym," declared Coach
Thornton Bennett when he was called
upon at the Hi-Dad banquet for
basketball and honor students last
evening in the domestic science
hall.The banquet, at which about 70
students and outside guests enjoyed
the hospitality of the Hi-Dad or-
ganization, was presided over by
Dr. W. P. McAdory, grand-dad, who
delivered to the recipients of the
honor pins and to the boys and
girls who will be given their basket-
ball letters this week, a message
of congratulation and inspiration."Our chief object is to aid and
assist you to make, not a poor citi-
zen or an ordinary citizen, but the
very best citizen. For taking the
experiences of the past, preparation
to the large body of students has
not the best effects, since getting
a small group of leaders into line,
and letting them by precept and
example live up to the teachings
you wish impressed, in the long
(Continued on Page Four.)RECOMMEND
LESS GRAIN
PRODUCTIONCanadian and Argentine
Competition in Euro-
pean Markets GreatIRRIGATION TESTS
ARE HELD VITALSoils and Crop Depart-
ment of Economic Con-
ference Report Made
Public Today.Editor's Note—This is the sec-
ond of a series of group reports
resulting from the third annual
Union county economic confer-
ence held here last Friday and
Saturday.Recommendations that Union
county and Oregon farmers devote
less ground to wheat and more to
other crops, because of the rapidly
increasing quantity of cheaper
grown foreign wheat, are contained
in the report of the soils and crop
group of the third annual Union
county economic conference held
here last Friday and Saturday. The
report is submitted by J. A. Gas-
kill, chairman of the committee."Due to the development of mil-
lions of acres of rich virgin land
in Canada and Argentina where
wheat and wheat alone must be
grown for many years, those coun-
tries are rapidly displacing Amer-
ican wheat in European countries.
They can grow it cheaper than we
can due to low land values, large
farms, and cheaper transportation,"
the report reads. "This does not
mean that Oregon farmers must
cease to grow wheat, but it means
a reduction in the wheat acre-
age in those countries where

(Continued on Page Five)

WRECK VICTIM
MAY RECOVERThe body of Mrs. Stella McFar-
land Retzer, 54 years old, who died
the result of injuries received in
an automobile accident on the high-
way between here and Lone Tree
yesterday afternoon, is at the Sno-
odgrass-Zimmerman chapel today,
pending word from relatives in the
south, when the remains will be
sent to Walla Walla, Washington,
the home of the deceased, for
burial.Mr. Retzer, who received serious
back injuries when the car in
which he with Mrs. Retzer and his
daughter, Miss Catherine Hawley,
were riding, turned over, is re-
ported to be resting easily this after-
noon. Although Mr. Retzer's in-
juries are serious and painful, he
will recover, Dr. Phy stated today.
The injuries received in the acci-
dent were aggravated by trying to
lift the car from Mrs. Retzer, who
was pinned under the machine for
several minutes.The heavy machine caught the
upper part of Mrs. Retzer's body as
it turned bottom side up, crushing
her ribs into her lungs causing her
death. The accident happened at
about 12:30 o'clock yesterday af-
ternoon and the injured woman
died at 3 o'clock the same day.
Miss Hawley escaped with only
minor scratches.Mrs. Retzer was president of the
school board at Walla Walla, Wash-
ington and also president of the
Park and Arts club there. She was
born October 19, 1871 in Iowa. She
is survived by her mother, Mrs.
McFarland, of Walla Walla; three
children, Miss Catherine Hawley,
who lived with her mother; Philip
Hawley, of Baker, and William
Hawley of Pendleton and two sis-
ters, Catherine and Philip Hawley
lived in La Grande at the home
of Mr. and Mrs. Forest Scroggin,
going to Hot Lake again this
morning to be with Mr. Retzer,
their step-father.Mr. Retzer is a retired baker of
Walla Walla. He will probably be
taken to his home there just as
soon as his condition will allow.Even Swine Celebrate
Saint Patrick's DayNineteen little pigs were born to
a Chester White sow belonging to
Clifford Conrad, of Imbler, on St.
Patrick's day. Clifford will enter
them in the ten-litter contest at
the state fair this coming fall. He
has taken several prizes at Salem
in the past.Council To
Discuss U.S.
AdherenceQuestion of American En-
trance into the World
Court to Be Threshed
Out Shortly.GENEVA, Mar. 18. (AP).—The
league of nations council decided
this morning to discuss at a 15
minutes' session the question of
American adherence to the perma-
nent court of justice, including the
reservations attached by the sen-
ate.Decision, which was unexpected,
was taken on a motion by Sir Aus-
ton Chamberlain, British foreign
secretary. Sir Auston is believed
to have acted on advice from the
British ambassador at Washington,
Sir Esmé Howard, conveying the
opinion the American government
would not deem examination of
the problem by the council either
offensive or unwarranted.Expect Cautious Move.
Officials said today that the
council would undoubtedly not
cautiously in the matter, but
called attention to the fact it was
impossible to totally divorce the
league from America's proposed
adherence to the court, first, be-
cause eventual American ratifica-
tion must be deposited with the
league secretariat, and second, be-
cause the American reservations
really affect the prerogatives and
even the composition of the coun-
cil itself.The council is affected, it was
pointed out, because of one of the

(Continued on Page Five)

REGENTS PLAN
'HUNTING' TRIPEUGENE, Mar. 18. (AP).—Ton-
day plans for the trip of a com-
mittee of regents of the University
of Oregon, for the purpose of hav-
ing interviews with a number of
university presidents with the view
of obtaining a new head for the
process of making, according to an-
nouncement here.Dean H. D. Sheldon, dean of the
school of education, will accompany
Judge G. E. Skidmore, of Eugene,
and Vernon H. Yawter, of Med-
ford, on the trip. Judge Skidmore
and Mr. Yawter will represent the
regents.The committee will stop at Tama-
rion, Wyo., to talk with Dr. A. G.
Crane, president of the University
of Wyoming and at Moscow, Idaho,
to confer with Dr. A. H. Upham,
president of the University of Idaho.
It is understood that a number
of other universities will also be
visited, but no announcement was
made by the regents as to the it-
inerary of the trip.Sir Oliver Lodge Says
He Talks with the DeadLONDON, Mar. 18. (AP).—Sir
Oliver Lodge, scientist and spiri-
tualist, asserted in an address at
Christ Church, Blackfriars today
that he frequently talks with the
dead. He urged his hearers not to
be afraid of death, because there is
no extinction."There are no dead in the church-
yard," he declared. He described
death as a new adventure, and
said that, in "the life beyond we
may go up or down, according to
how we have made use of our op-
portunities in this life."District Deputy Unable
To Attend Elk MeetingAlthough District Deputy J. Gor-
don Baker, McMinnville, was un-
able to attend the special initiatory
meeting of the B. P. O. Elks lodge
here last night as scheduled, be-
cause of illness, the evening was
one of unusual interest. After a
class of twelve candidates were in-
troduced those present enjoyed a
clam feed.League Council Includes
Germany on CommissionGENEVA, Mar. 18. (AP).—A
decision by the league of nations
at its secret session last night to
put Germany on the commission
which is to study revision of the
covenant clauses concerning the
composition of the council aroused
considerable discussion today.
The decision was interpreted by
many as indicating that the coun-
cil virtually regards Germany as a
member of the league, despite yester-
day's adjournment to action on
her application for membership
until September.CHINESE TO
KEEP RIVER,
PORT OPENUltimatum Delivered Re-
cently by Powers, Fav-
orably AnsweredPROTOCOL OF 1901
TO BE OBSERVEDThousand Students Riot
Following Announce-
ment—17 Killed and 16
Wounded by GuardsTIEN TSIN, Mar. 18. (AP).—It
is semi-officially announced that
the Kuomintang (national peoples'
army) and the Fengtien troops of
Marshal Chang Tso-lin, Man-
churian dictator, have accepted
the demands of the great powers
that they cease their war-like
operations around Taku bar in the
Pei river.Apparently river traffic between
Taku and Tien Tsin has been re-
opened, in part at least, as French
and American gunboats went out
over the Taku bar this morning
from Tientsin and the American
gunboat Asheville went to Taku
from Tien Tsin, which is 37 miles
up the Pei river.The customs boats are standing
by at Taku in readiness to restore
the leading lights in the channel.PEKING, Mar. 18. (AP).—Sev-
enteen students were killed and 16
wounded by guards who fired on
a thousand students who were
demonstrating before the cabinet
offices. The demonstration was
in protest against the government's
acquiescence to the ultimatum ofJOHN S. THOMPSON,
ARMY OFFICER, IS
EXECUTED TODAYMANILA, P. I., Mar. 18. (AP).—
Calmly and without making a
statement, John S. Thompson, sec-
ond lieutenant, United States army,
yanked to the scaffold in a ware-
house at McKinley, Manila, early
today and was executed for the
murder of Miss Audrey Burleigh
at Manila, August 5, 1925. He
was the first American army offi-
cer to be executed in power since
Thompson walked to the scaffold
without assistance. He spent
yesterday with his spiritual ad-
visor and his attorney.Anti-Saloon League
Backs Fred SteiwerPORTLAND, Mar. 18. (AP).—The
anti-saloon league gave its en-
dorsement today to the candidacy
of Frederick Steiwer of Pendleton
for the republican nomination for
U. S. Senator.League officials issued two state-
ments, the first explaining the en-
dorsement of Steiwer, and the sec-
ond replying to published declara-
tions that "wet" influences had
caused the organization to with-
hold the endorsement when they
learned that it was scheduled to
be issued yesterday.Robbers Make Escape
After Stealing SafeKIAMATH FALLS, Mar. 18. (AP).—Two robbers who stole a
safe from the post office at Bray-
mill had apparently made good
their escape today. Officers found
the safe intact at Port Creek near
where an attempt was made to
blow it, and returned it to the post
office. It contained postal money
orders and \$125 in cash.Eugene Man Withdraws
From School Head RacePORTLAND, Ore., Mar. 18. (AP).—
E. F. Carleton, of Eugene, an-
nounced here today that he had
decided to withdraw from the race
for the republican nomination for
superintendent of public instruc-
tion, because he had been offered
and had accepted the secretary-
ship of the Oregon state teachers
association. In his announcement
he said his new position offers ex-
ceptional opportunities for service
in the educational field.Colonel Forbes Ready
To Enter PenitentiaryLEAVENWORTH, Kans., Mar. 18. (AP).—Arrangements were
completed, it is understood for Col-
onel Charles H. Forbes, former
director of the United States vet-
erans bureau, to enter the federal
penitentiary here this afternoon
under sentence of two years, on
charges of conspiracy to defraud
the government in letting contracts
for veterans' hospitals.

Solons Hear Chief Enforcer

"Let's enforce prohibition or modify our laws," said General
Lusk, C. Andrews, enforcer-in-chief, in this address before a
House committee at Washington. Congressmen Lindley H. Had-
ley, Charles C. Keams, and Charles L. Faust (standing, left to
right) and Wm. R. Green and Carl R. Chindblom (seated, left
to right) are listening to him.COL. COOLIDGE
WEAKER TODAYWASHINGTON, Mar. 18. (AP).—
President Coolidge will leave here
this afternoon to go to the
bedside of his father at Plymouth,
Vt.WASHINGTON, Mar. 18. (AP).—
President Coolidge prepared to-
day to leave Washington for the
bedside of his father in Vermont
as soon as arrangements could be
made. It was indicated that he
might be able to get away early in
the afternoon.PLYMOUTH, Vt., Mar. 18. (AP).—
Colonel John C. Coolidge suffered
a sinking spell early today and
his condition was very critical. Dr.
Albert Cram said his strength
would not carry him more than 48
hours and possibly not twenty
four.Colonel Coolidge has grown
weaker during the night and his
heart is not so good," said Dr.
Cram.Angus Macneil, body guard to
Colonel Coolidge, brought the
news to the general store at 8:10.
He said the white house already
had been notified of the condition
of the president's father.Macneil said the situation was
critical but there were indications
that the crisis, one of several in
the history of Colonel Coolidge's
illness, might be passed favorably.U. S. Population To Be
117,135,817 Next July 1WASHINGTON, Mar. 18. (AP).—
The population of continental
United States will be 117,135,817
next July 1, the census
bureau estimated today, the fig-
ures being an increase of 11,426,157
since the last federal enumera-
tion in 1920.New York with 11,503,296 and
Pennsylvania with 5,613,579 re-
tain their rank of first and sec-
ond respectively. Population of
Pacific coast states are given as
for California 4,316,450; Oregon
877,477; Washington 1,558,228.Jack Frost Pays Visit;
Fruitmen Use SmudgesMEDFORD, Ore., Mar. 18. (AP).—
The Rogue river valley was
blanketed this morning beneath
black smoke, from the smudge-
pots lighted in the first battle of
the season with Jack Frost on his
annual raid on fruit buds. The mor-
tuary dropped to 25 degrees at 4:20
this morning.Klamath Falls, Ore., Mar. 18. (AP).—
With a temperature of 24
recorded here early this morning,
lowering clouds were threatening
snow this forenoon.LEAVENWORTH, Kans., Mar. 18. (AP).—
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penitentiary here this afternoon
under sentence of two years, on
charges of conspiracy to defraud
the government in letting contracts
for veterans' hospitals.CRAZED MAN
RUNS AMUCK,
KILLS THREEWomen, Including Wife,
Fall Victim to Real-
tor's GunfireNEIGHBOR SLAIN
AT FRONT DOORJohn M. Goins, Killer, Es-
caped from Tragedy
Scene in Automobile; Is
Still at Large.STOCKTON, Cal., Mar. 18. (AP).—
Three women, including the wife
and sister-in-law of the slayer, are
dead as the result of John M. Goins,
local real estate agent, running
amuck with a gun here today. First
he shot his wife, Florence Roberts
Goins, his sister-in-law, Minnie Po-
dasta, and then going to the house
of George McNoble, prominent at-
torney and past president of the
state bar association, he shot Mrs.
McNoble when she came to the
door.He fired three shots. Two of
Mrs. McNoble's children, who were
approaching the house after their
morning session at school, witness-
ed the shooting.Goins escaped in a machine after
the McNoble shooting and is still
at large. Goins is a former rail-
road man who later embarked in
the real estate business. McNoble
is in San Francisco and early ef-
forts to get in touch with him
were unavailing.SLEUTHS GRAB
BOY CRIMINALSSAN ANTONIO, Tex., Mar. 18. (AP).—
Reading "Dime novels"
supplied inspiration for the ex-
ploits of a band of four boys who
for more than a week have kept
San Antonio's police baffled. The
four youths, the oldest of whom is
18, are in custody following the
confession of three of the quartet
that the "gang" had committed 18
burglaries and stolen five automo-
biles in the last 11 days.The 15-year old leader of the
band is alleged to be one of the
cleverest criminals ever known in
San Antonio. Augmented by 20
firemen, used as special policemen,
the police force failed to catch the
youthful robbers, their capture
being effected finally through the
work of detectives."It's a good thing you got us,"
the youthful leader told the police
yesterday. "We intended to boil
down dynamite to 'soup' and
blow the safe at the Castrol National
bank last night. We would
not have been caught, either. We
had a big car spotted and intend-
ed to mount a machine gun on the
rear of it. We got all our ideas
from dime novels."National Protection Is
Urged; Pacifists ScoredNEW YORK, Mar. 18. (AP).—
National protection was urged and
"professional pacifists" were de-
nounced today by Assistant sec-
retary of War Hanford MacNider in
an address delivered before the
Women's National Republican
club.Mr. MacNider condemned the
"doctrine of preparedness" and
the "professional pacifist" as more
often than not on the receiving end
of some organization. Among the
"professional pacifists," he said,
"are earnest and sincere gropers
for international peace, conscientious
objectors, paid agitators, senti-
mental sub-siders and rods who
are seeking to undermine our form
of government."The "delusions" of this "strange
brood," the secretary said, are that
"every one that want to war wants
to go again." He asked permission
of his hearers "to talk that lie to
the west" and then briefly out-
lined the war department's pre-
paredness policies."What we want is not a great
army, but an expert nucleus, not
great gatherings of war materials
at rest in peace-time great mobiliza-
tions of men or arms, but a well
thought out, comprehensive and ex-
pert structure of emergency in-
surance plans.Colonel Forbes Ready
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