

# LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)

An Independent Newspaper

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GOD'S PRESENCE—"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house." 1 Kings 8:27.

### LOWDEN AND MEREDITH.

The condition of agriculture is better than it was in 1920. Commodity prices are more nearly on the general level of the American dollar. Farmers are in better shape to make a small profit. Perhaps the average individual engaged in agriculture is about up to the average engaged in business—but farm conditions are still far from being ideal and the low buying power of the farmer is the one factor spoiling what would otherwise be an unusual period of prosperity.

Realization of that fact is responsible for continuous efforts for better farm legislation. There is going to be no let up in the coming congressional session. That is as it should be. It's a good sign. And equally important is the effort of men no longer in public office but possessed with keen appreciation for the agricultural situation and long experience in solving farming problems. Two men are particularly outstanding in that respect—Frank Lowden, former governor of Illinois and a presidential contender against Harding, and Ed Meredith, farm paper publisher and secretary of agriculture under Wilson.

One is a republican and the other a democrat—but their ambitions from a farming standpoint are identical. They want more stabilized agriculture so that the workers in that gigantic enterprise have a better chance to make a profit. They are not in complete accord on possible solutions. But they are working to a common end, they are spreading the gospel of more scientific farm legislation to business and industrial interests of the east with ever-growing emphasis on the basic importance of agriculture for the entire country.

Mr. Lowden talked recently at a big agricultural meeting in St. Louis and is likely to become the rallying-post of many middle-western republicans in the next presidential campaign. Mr. Meredith appeared before the annual dinner of the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York a week ago with an address on the farm situation. Incidentally he offered a solution that will win much approval, urging a federal commission to fix minimum prices in advance of the planting season for wheat, cotton, corn, wool, sugar, and also butter, as major farm products. This move, he said, would be the most practical stabilizer of the agricultural industry. Mr. Meredith asserted that price was the "real thing that governs production," and that if prices were fixed in advance of planting it would go a long way toward stopping overproduction as well as underproduction. He further suggested that the commission, through a fund collected like insurance from the farmers, should undertake to purchase the crop surpluses, but should not pay for them until a year following the harvest.

Many similar farm relief ideas will be considered by congress in the coming months. Perhaps most of them will be entirely impractical. Perhaps none of them will do what we hope for. But the interest and effort of such men as Lowden and Meredith is gratifying. With the aid of national legislators pledged to farm relief work, some reasonable solution should result so that the agricultural depression of history cannot be easily repeated.

### 6 Escape From Klamath Falls County Prison

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Dec. 1 (AP)—Frankie plea of Mrs. Ed McClinden, congress, phoned to local officers last night, led to the discovery that her husband and five others had made a successful escape from the county jail by sawing out from window bars and sliding down a blanket ladder to freedom.

Mrs. McClinden phoned police that her husband, against whom she had filed divorce proceedings was endeavoring to break into the door of her cottage and said she feared for her life.

Six Escape  
Sheriff Hurl Hawkins, visiting with Chief of Police Harry Louche heard the message with amazement. A quick check-up of county jail prisoners revealed six missing and subsequent investigation showed the manner of escape.

Up to early this afternoon officers had no trace of the fleeing men. Those who escaped were: Lee Gray, awaiting trial upon the charge of larceny. Ed McClinden, charged with the

issuance of bad checks. Jack Saunders, awaiting trial upon the charge of larceny of a car.

J. F. Ekstrom, serving one year upon conviction of possession and transportation of illicit whiskey. "Red" Henderson, charged with violation of the prohibition law. Milo Roginco, charged with violation of the prohibition law.

JAVA WOMEN AFTER VOTE  
BATAVIA, Java (AP)—Javanese women are awakening to the importance of possessing the vote.

When about 11 years ago Mrs. Carie Chapman, Calif. and her friend Aletia Jacobs, a Dutch feminist, visited the East Indian archipelago, "Votes for Women" societies sprang up with great rapidity. After a while, however, interest flagged and the women of Java have since been blaming their European sisters for not helping the movement after they had won their fight.

Recently there has been a notable revival and a formal demand has been made upon the Dutch colonial government for the franchise. Javanese women are primarily interested in their matrimonial rights and the freedom of choice in marriage.

Sweden voted well. Perhaps the news got around that snakes killed 12,000 persons in India last year.

### PUBLIC UTILITY VALUES GREATER

Increase Is \$6,920,286.64 over Last Year, Tax Commissioner Finds

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 1 (AP)—The apportioned or taxable value of public utility property in Oregon as equalized by the state tax commission for the 1926 tax roll on which the 1927 levy will be based is \$161,873,994.35. Earl Fisher, state tax commissioner has announced. This is an increase of \$6,920,286.64 over last year. The apportioned value is reached by applying the tax ratio of the respective counties to the full value of the utility property. The full value this year reached \$269,511,714.11, while last year it was \$258,532,006.92.

The apportioned value of utility properties in Multnomah county this year is \$45,787,026.58 as compared with \$43,222,353.25 last year. The second highest in the state is Umatilla county with \$11,341,960.84, against \$11,057,160.56 last year. Clackamas county has \$7,649,369.68 against \$7,109,392.56 last year. Douglas \$7,581,416 against \$7,467,945.09 a year ago and Baker \$7,018,204.51 against \$6,963,122.42. In the six million class are Lane with \$6,527,711.84 this year, Marion with \$6,035,952.15 and Wasco with \$6,407,956.92. Jackson has \$5,266,564.93, Klamath \$4,736,493.90 and Union \$5,896,872.23.

The apportioned value of the several classes of utilities are: steam railroads, \$96,825,534.33; electric railroads, \$1,821,543.95; car companies, \$1,615,146.57; electric companies, \$5,674,604.64; water and gas companies, \$8,407,766.74; joints, \$22,785,542.73; express \$339,826.85; telegraph \$1,823,604.81; telephone, \$12,569,431.53.

### CHICAGO SAFE FOR VISITORS RECORDS SHOW

CHICAGO, (AP)—Should one on visiting Chicago supply himself with a suit of chain armor or an armed bodyguard?

Spectacular gang murders have received so much newspaper notice both here and abroad and have occasioned so much comment on the city's "lawlessness" that there probably are thousands particularly in the smaller towns, who imagine that no one visiting the place would be safe unless equipped as for an advance on the enemy trenches.

Live Normal As Elsewhere

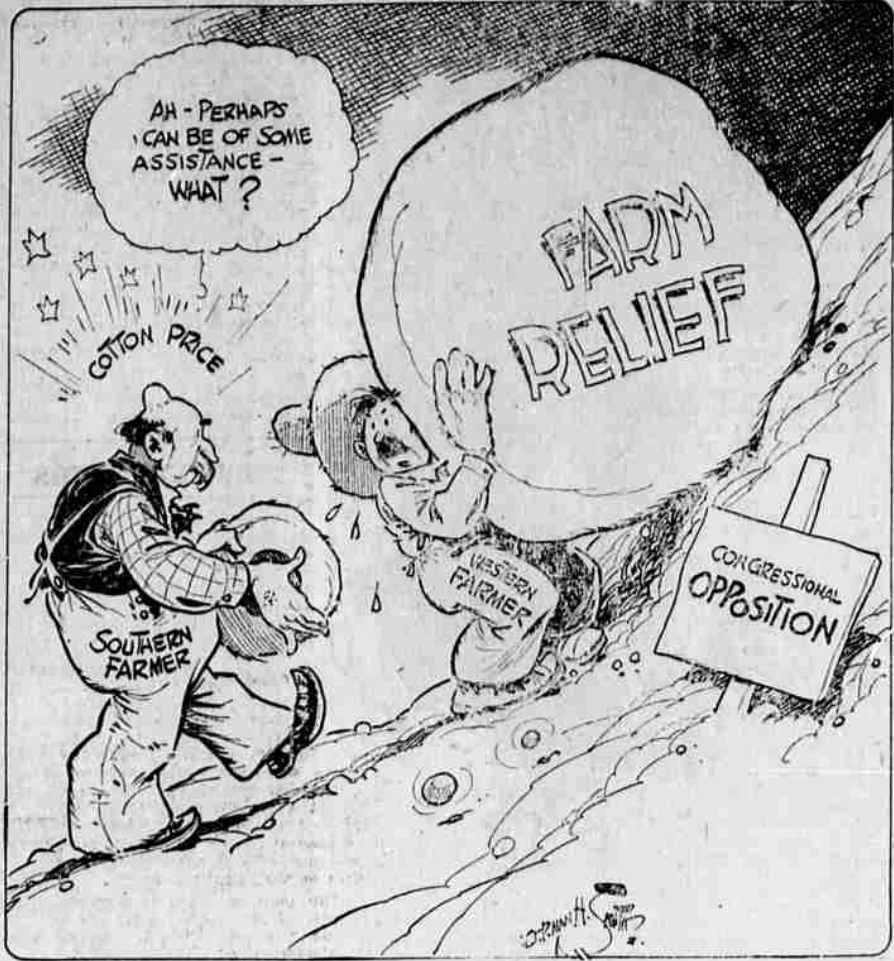
This picture, the same as any picture built upon the cumulative effect of a number of isolated examples, is false, city officials say, citing figures showing that Chicago, for its size has one of the smallest crime records of any city in the land. Chicagoans, who live a life about as normal and uneventful as the average citizen anywhere, see so little of crime conditions that they sometimes wonder if they are not missing out on something.

### PRINCE EDWARD AND HIS BOWLER AHORSE TRA! LA!



So clean of trouble has been Prince Edward's riding record of late that the worried crown he wears with his bowler in this picture of him answering the call of the hounds at the Quers Hunt in Nottinghamshire—the worried crown is not altogether understandable.

### SISYPHUS SECURES SUCCOR



### LAND BOARD ACTS

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 1 (AP)—The state land board yesterday adopted a resolution authorizing State Engineer Luper to confer with the Ross Island sand and gravel company of Portland and established a line at the island above there would be no royalty charge by the state for sand and gravel taken by the company, and below which the regular royalty charge of 10 cents a yard would be made. A controversy arose for the reason that Ross Island is

owned by the company, making an unusual situation.

### ROTARIANS ENTERTAIN

EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 1 (AP)—James H. Beatty, of Victoria, B. C., district governor of rotary, was an official guest of the Eugene Rotary club at a banquet and special program last evening. Mr. Beatty was on his annual tour of inspection of rotary clubs in his district.

### ROMANCE—IN GALLOWS' SHADOW



For love of Evelyn Cook, 22-year-old Lee Bennett, of Louisville, Ky., killed his 69-year-old grandmother, Mrs. Rosa Bennett, so he would have enough money to marry. He has been convicted of murder and sentenced to death, but Miss Cook insists she will marry him before his execution. This picture was taken in the Louisville jail after Bennett had been sentenced.

### TO THE PALACE



Through streets lined with soldiers, sailors and throngs of his subjects, King Gustaf, of Sweden, with Albert, King of Belgium, (in barouche), lead the wedding procession to the Royal Palace in Stockholm for the civil marriage of Princess Astrid, King Gustaf's niece, and Crown Prince Leopold, of Belgium. After the ceremony, the young couple sailed on separate men-of-war for Brussels where their union was completed with religious services six days later.

### WESTERN OREGON RAIN SLOWING UP

Willamette River Drops to 9-Foot Level—Precipitation .31 Inch.

EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 1 (AP)—Because water has been in the basement of the new school building for so long, but 14 days of school were held in November in the Bethel district according to word received by County Superintendent E. J. Moore.

Stoves are being placed in each room, and the furnace will be abandoned for the winter, as a result.

RIVER FALLING  
EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 1 (AP)—The Willamette river went down to the nine-foot level last night, dropping from 14 feet. Precipitation here during the past 24 hours was but .31 of an inch, and prospects are for a further drop in the stage of the river.

Water washed over a new market road in the Horton district, and the Cottage Grove-Loraine road was blocked for a day or so by flood waters.

Yesterday the water went over the prairie road between Eugene and Junction City in several places.

Damage Slight  
Damage to roads was held slight by county officials who yesterday surveyed the situation. Only once in the past 13 years has there been more rainfall in November than the record of precipitation in Eugene for the month just past, according to Gerard M. Debroekert, local weather observer. During the past month the precipitation was 10.73 inches. In Nov., 1915, the precipitation was 11.86 inches.

WARNING ISSUED  
PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 1 (AP)—Renewed rains in the Upper Willamette valley caused Forecaster E. L. Wells today to issue a warn-

The great American institution—  
Coffee and toast breakfast  
The great resultant malady—  
Undernourishment and irregular elimination



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ling to waterfront property owners here to prepare for flood stage of the river the latter part of the week. The flood stage in Portland is 15 feet. The water stood at 11.3 feet this morning. Reports indicated the river rising above Albany.

SEEN AMONG SOCIETY  
Seen at fashionable balls and receptions: Lady Crews, wife of the British Ambassador to France. Wearing a white satin gown with crystal fringes and a tiara and ornaments of diamonds and rubies.—The Duchess of Sutherland in black with sequined fringe and wearing diamonds and emeralds.—Lady Millicent Hawes, the Duchess of Alba and Berwick, in white satin with pearly fringes with ornaments of emeralds and pearls.

TEACHES MOST PUPILS  
EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 1 (AP)—To H. C. Howe, professor of English, goes the honor of teaching the largest number of students in the University of Oregon, according to a report from the administrative office. Total enrollment in professor Howe's classes is 351. Dr. C. V. Boyer, head of the English department is second instructing an even 300. N. B. Zane

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Main 42

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