

# LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)  
An Independent Newspaper

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THE HEART OF GOD—"The Lord said unto Him, I have heard thy prayer and thy supplication; . . . I have hallowed this house, which thou hast built, to put my name there forever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually." 1 Kings 9:3.

## WARNING NOTE IN DAVIS' REPORT

### National Defense Strengthened But Little, War Secretary Says

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6 (AP)—A warning against "blindly deluding ourselves" on the subject of national defense is sounded by Secretary Davis of the war department in his annual report.

There has been only partial execution of the plan of defense mapped out in 1925, he said, and even the maintenance of the army on its present basis "requires the appropriation of more funds each year."

"With the exception of a slight restoration of the supply of ammunition at the expense of a reduction in personnel, and the inauguration of the so-called housing program," he continued, "conditions have changed but little since the rendition of my last annual report."

**Peacetime Use of Army**  
The secretary discussed at great length the peacetime uses of the army, ranging from the running of barge lines to teaching enlisted men professions or trades into which they go on completing their "stitch" in the army. Even the air corps came in for treatment from his commercial rather than its combat aspects.

Reviewing the civil side of the work of the army engineer corps, Davis flatly disapproved proposals to transfer these duties out of the army.

"In the long run the present system of administering our rivers and harbors activities is the most economical," he said. "We, in this case, achieve the end so often lauded of making our peacetime army more fully pay its way."

As an additional consideration, Davis pointed out that the fact that army engineers "are officers of the army, whose normal promotion and pay cannot be advanced or retarded by political influences, leaves them unaffected by such considerations in their actions."

### Discusses Harbors

In discussing waterway and harbor developments, the war secretary laid down the principle that projects should be held in abeyance until completion of those on which large expenditures already have been made. It would take \$225,000,000 and at least five years to round out the principal developments now in progress, he said, "even if it were practicable to make such amounts available."

He used as an example the Ohio river development, approximately 85 per cent complete, but "capable of only about 15 per cent of the service which may be expected from the completed project."

Davis recalled his previous remarks on the necessity of removing army personnel from "dilapidated barracks and quarters of wartime construction."

"Suffice it to say that conditions are, naturally, worse than was the case a year ago," he said.

About \$7,000,000 has become available for building purposes from sale of surplus property, but a total of \$20,000,000 in surplus has been either sold or transferred to other government departments.

"Where property is transferred to another department of the government," he said, "this (housing) construction fund should receive an equivalent transfer credit from the appropriation of that department."

The war secretary put his foot down on the return to duty of officers who resigned to seek civilian employment.

## Armed Control Irks Germany; Draft Protest

GENEVA, Dec. 6 (AP)—Germany will make a determined effort before her delegates leave Geneva to secure a definite agreement upon an early date for cessation of the inter-allied military control.

This declaration was made to the Associated Press today by a member of the German delegation at the end of the first meeting of the 43rd session of the league of nations council.

bitterness among the German people over the inter-allied control is steadily growing, the spokesman continued, and the question must be reckoned with even more importance than that of reducing the army of occupation in the Rhineland.

Moreover, Germany will insist upon modification of the project to favor the league with the right to investigate German armaments which it is said substituted for the inter-allied control.

It has been found that a marketable oil can be made from cherry stems. The stems are heated, the shells broken and the oil made from the kernel within. The shells are used for fuel.

Each American pays an average of two dollars a year for the support of the army.

## Colds

Insist on the u'most

A cold may be stopped in 24 hours, the fever checked, the bowels opened, the entire system toned the way is HILL'S—a way so efficient that we paid \$1,000,000 for it. Don't rely on lesser pills, and don't delay. Get the quick, complete results that HILL'S is famous for.

HILL'S Cascara-Bromide-Quinine  
Be sure you get HILL'S in the red box with portrait. At all druggists—30c.

## THE WAR IN THE AIR



These two turkeys got into some kind of an argument—maybe over which one would make the best army—while they, with thousands more, were being auctioned off at Hatfield, Pa. So they had an aerial combat and a photographer caught 'em at it.

### WHEN THE WIRE SADDENS

(By Bruce Dennis in Klamath Falls Herald)

This forenoon the Associated Press wire opened as usual with its glib news of the world. To the A. P. and its operator, Otto Ellis, news is a product, a crop each day to be harvested and put away. Stories of the Balkans, stories of floods, stories of Eastern states, came tumbling into The Herald office over the wire, which is one nerve of the greatest news gathering and dispensing structure ever known to man, the Associated Press.

We scanned sheet after sheet as Operator Ellis ran them from his typewriter. Big news, lots of it, but wait a moment—stop for a second—the busy wire through respect be stilled, for before us lay the brief telegraphic statement saying, "Ed. Wright, a native son of Union county, Oregon, former prosecuting attorney and also secretary of the public service commission of Oregon for several years, died at his home in La Grande last night."

How a shock will change you in an instant. The hurry and rush of a daily newspaper respects nothing, but when a friend such as Ed. Wright was to the writer passes on, a vacuum forms and for a brief time we know not what is going on.

Our mind ran as a moving picture film, when we realized Ed. Wright was gone and we stood again on the banks of the Grande Ronde river, or rode through Oro Dell with Ed. Wright when he was county clerk, prosecutor or commission secretary. His voice seemed to resound through the canyons as it did when we visited Wallowa lake and other points where he loved to point out nature's beauty and plan the days when he could live on a cattle ranch in the Snake river district and let the rest of the world go by.

But, he is gone. His ranch dream will not materialize. His useful life to state, county and neighbors ceases. We pick up another message; this one is from his good wife and she says, "Your friend Ed. Wright passed on last night; funeral Thursday at 2 o'clock."

So, Ed. is gone. His work is finished. The years of social, political and business activity in which many of us played our part in life's drama along with Ed. Wright, have combined to make up that thing we call life on this earth. How easily the silver chord snaps.

### ROUTE STANDING UP

EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 6 (AP)—The new Cascade route of the Southern Pacific railway company is standing up remarkably well for a new roadbed, according to E. L. King, superintendent of the Portland division, who has returned from a trip over the new line.

Violent storms have battered the roadbed, but it has withstood the attack, King said. The plan to inaugurate passenger service over the route about April 1 of next year will in all probability be carried out, he said.

"Is he dead?" he asked anxiously of the doctor who was attending the victim.

### Pass Item Without Recommendation

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 6 (AP)—The state budget commission has tentatively agreed to pass up to the legislature without recommendation an item of \$50,000 in the budget of the estimated requirements of the children's farm home near Corvallis, a new state aided institution. The money is desired for the construction of an administration building, including residence for the superintendent to cost an estimated \$47,000 and one other building to cost \$15,000.

The budget does not make it clear whether the institution is asking this as an appropriation from the state or whether it is simply mentioned as one of the needs of the school, so it is not probable that the commission will act on it.

### CALLS WINE CATSUP

EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 6 (AP)—Designation of wine as catsup, by concealing the wine in catsup bottles, is charged to Peter A. Kelly, arrested here Saturday night. Fifty-one bottles of the alleged liquor were seized by the arresting officers.

### HARBORS, RIVERS ASK \$65,477,365

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and bar \$34,000; Columbia river and tributaries above Collio Falls to mouth of Snake river \$5,000; Snake river \$14,000.

Second Portland, Ore., district: Columbia river and Lower Willamette rivers below Portland, \$449,000; Clatskanie river \$7,000; Willamette river above Portland \$46,000; Lewis river \$2,000; Cowitz river \$2,000; Skamokawa creek \$2,100.

Seattle district: Willapa river and harbor \$30,000; Grays harbor and bar entrance \$200,000; Puget Sound and its tributary waters \$29,000; waterway, Port Townsend bay to Oak bay \$7,000; Seattle harbor \$12,000; Strait river \$3,000.

### CONGRESS IS CONVENED IN WASHINGTON

(Continued from Page One)

ailed introduced at the request of various organizations, but many pressing for attention and somebody vigorously controversial issues which portend lengthy debates.

Appropriation bills to supply funds for all agencies of the executive branch of the government must be enacted and advocates of legislation touching upon radio control, prohibition, taxation, alien property, Muscle Shoals, branch banking tariff relief and rivers and harbors are clamoring for attention together with several international problems. Among those, alien property, radio and the McFadden branch banking bills, the Lausanne treaty with Turkey and the treaty to outlaw use of poisonous gas in warfare have been accorded places on tentative pro-



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grams prepared for the senate and house.

### Coedidge Message Tomorrow

President Coolidge's annual message, which will be sent to the capitol by special messenger this year, will not be delivered for reading in the senate and house until tomorrow, to be followed Wednesday by the annual budget message. As soon as the latter has been read, Chairman Madden of the appropriations committee plans to place the treasury-post office supply bill before the house and prom for action before the end of the week, making room for a similar measure affecting either the interior department or the agricultural department.

### Gas Treaty Fight Looms

Executive nominees will fill many of the one thousand or more vacancies in various federal services will make the first of the session lively for those interested in patronage, while Chairman Borah, of the senate foreign relations committee, intends to start the battle over the gas treaty without delay. He and Senator Swanson, of Virginia, ranking democrat on the committee, will lead the fight for the treaty, while the opposition, which is backed by the American Legion, will be headed by Senators Reed, of Penn., and Moses, of New Hampshire, republicans. A legion committee has been delegated to stay in Washington during the fight and to what it can to bring about rejection of the treaty.

### SEEKS REFERENDUM

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6 (AP)—A resolution proposing a national referendum on prohibition was introduced in the house today by Representative Gallahan, democrat, Massachusetts.

### SENATOR WALSH OFFERS RESOLUTION

Senator Walsh offered a resolution asking that the senate election committee go into the matter, but the resolution went over for a day on motion of Senator Curtis, Kansas, the republican leader, and Senator Weeks, republican, New Hampshire.

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