

LaGrande Evening Observer

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WOMEN THIS MORNING—"Close things into the lead, call upon the stars, make known the deeds among the people, stir into life, sing praise into him, talk ye of all his wonderful works." 1 Chron. 19: 2.

"Next time I shall see America," says Queen Marie. Not if America sees her first. She will be overwhelmed with entertainment and ecstasy just the same.

Christmas decorations on the business streets cost little, yet what a difference they make in the appearance of things. They are particularly appropriate since our new street lighting system has been so sadly delayed.

The government supply of medicinal liquor has diminished to 15 million gallons and plans are being made to meet this "grave emergency" by establishing a government controlled distillery before the reserve is entirely consumed. If it were possible to distinguish between "medicinal liquor" and liquor used as medicine, fifteen million gallons should last a long time yet.

COOLIDGE TALKS

President Coolidge's message to congress today contains the usual recommendations typical of most executive messages and gives particular consideration to temporary tax relief through application of the treasury surplus and to farm relief through some "reasonable" measure without price fixing. Use of the surplus is, after all, a minor matter since application on next year's income payments or on retirement of the war debt will be equally beneficial eventually. The problem of farm relief is more intricate.

One point is particularly well taken in his statements on this subject. He urges that the various agricultural groups reach an agreement and give their backing to one farm measure. There he touches the real reason for the failure of farm legislation—too many groups have too many different ideas and they have failed thus far in a compromise measure that can be given united support. No one plan for agricultural relief is going to satisfy everyone interested in relief. A certain ease-all is as difficult as harmony among legislators, but a compromise measure must be presented if we are to get any results and avoid a presidential veto.

In spite of the pressing demand for this legislation President Coolidge may still point with pride to national prosperity—and he does so without his usual modesty. With commodity prices decreased and the wage index raised the condition is a significant tribute to American efficiency, to waste elimination, to a better standard of living.

Although grown somewhat hackneyed from over-use during the Coolidge administration, the message urges anew for governmental economy while failing to make specific recommendations in that particular. Between the lines we sense a belief that further extension of the economy program is not practical, a supposition that is borne out by varied recommendations in the nature of public improvements and the development of the nation's resources. As a country we have about reached the low ebb of budget reduction.

Continued progress, so we gather from today's and other presidential utterances, is not possible if government expense is cut still more. Even the native thrift of a New Englander is at last thwarted. Proper tribute is paid to economy but the subject slides into the background as recommendations are made for new waterways, for the extension of agricultural agencies, for more adequate national defense, for reclamation. Perhaps it is just as well. There are two extremes in governmental spending. The administration has done well in its wide swing toward the side of economy. Coolidge sees little chance of pushing the pendulum further back, but we have assurance, at least, from past records that he will guard well any tendency to send it in the opposite direction.

LAUNCH CLOSES EXCITING CAREER

American Owned Vessel Surrendered to Chinese Forces—Missionary Is Captured.

AMONG, Dec. 7 (AP)—An American owned launch operated on the Min river between Yangling and Poochow by Hanchin, a Russian, has come to the end of an exciting career. The last three months of which saw the vessel shelled and so injured on its duties by bullets from bandits and hostile soldiers.

On the last trip toward Poochow the launch was stopped by following southern troops who demanded its surrender. Hanchin refused, closed the armored doors of the pilot house and slipped down the stair under heavy fire.

Cold Snap Hits Wallowa County; Wheat in Danger

WALLOWA, Ore., Dec. 7 (Special)—A considerable change in weather conditions occurred in this section toward the end of the week. Hard freezing temperatures occurred the past two nights, but with the sun warm during the day most of the frost is melted, leaving the ground very slick and making travel of any kind difficult. A heavy fog hangs over the county much of the time. Farmers would welcome a few inches of snow to allow full season wheat crops some protection from the freezing. With the soil very wet from recent storms some express the opinion that there is some danger of wheat crops being injured from the tramping and trawling of the soil.

With the coming of colder weather plowing has been stopped. Farmers, however, are still busy preparing for winter. More plowing has been done in this end of the valley during the past two months than for many years in the fall. The soil has been sufficiently wet to make the soil stay well.

Line Is on Rocks; Steamer Downs Fire

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7 (AP)—The marine department of the chamber of commerce was advised today that the liner Santa Maria of the Shiping Line Kaimo, on the coast 240 miles from Valparaiso, was bound from the Japanese port for Vancouver. No report was received of the condition of passengers and crew.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7 (AP)—The marine department of the chamber of commerce was advised today that a fire broke out on the freight steamer West Kaimo, which was off the coast east of Mexico, but was later extinguished without any assistance being sent to the vessel.

The West Kaimo is on her way from Acapulco, Calif. to San Francisco with a load of electrical instruments.

DINES AND WINES

A French newspaper says that Paris's dollar has killed him. We don't know which is true, but we think it is the poor franc.



This is H. H. Biers, with "Hospitality" spirit of the British government. When distinguished visitors come to Germany from the U.S. he is so that they are properly entertained and that our state dinner tables are their home and cheer. At State dinner tables, where the noblest spirit of the time, to the state dinner is shown in the simplest and most elegant in the world.

Today in Washington

Congress meets at noon. Coolidge sends annual message to congress. House adjourns after hearing president's message, to show respect for memory of "Uncle Joe" Cannon.

NEW SUPERINTENDENT

MARSHFIELD, Ore., Dec. 7 (AP)—Max Ham, superintendent of the Roseburg schools for the last six years, was elected superintendent of the Marshfield schools today to succeed C. A. Howard who becomes state superintendent of public instruction in January. Ham was born in Hobson, Ill.

NEW YORK, Dec. 7 (AP)—The National City bank of New York, the country's largest, environmental banking institution, today voted to increase its capital from \$50,000,000 to \$75,000,000.

Interior Department Activities Are Recounted in Report of Secretary

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7 (AP)—A bird's-eye review of bustling interior department activities that reach into many far reaches and deep below the surface of the earth was given in the annual report of Secretary Work.

It was one of the few annual accounts of modern times in which a cabinet officer merely told of the many important tasks his department was doing, and asked for nothing.

The 194 printed pages formed a handbook of facts and figures descriptive of departmental interests ranging from the control of many-million-dollar reclamation projects to the number of Portershire admitted during the year to the governmental hospital at Kailua, Hawaii.

About Reclamation

In view of the fact that congress already has accepted a continuing reclamation program, that subject was given barely one-tenth of the space of the

BOYS' SETS



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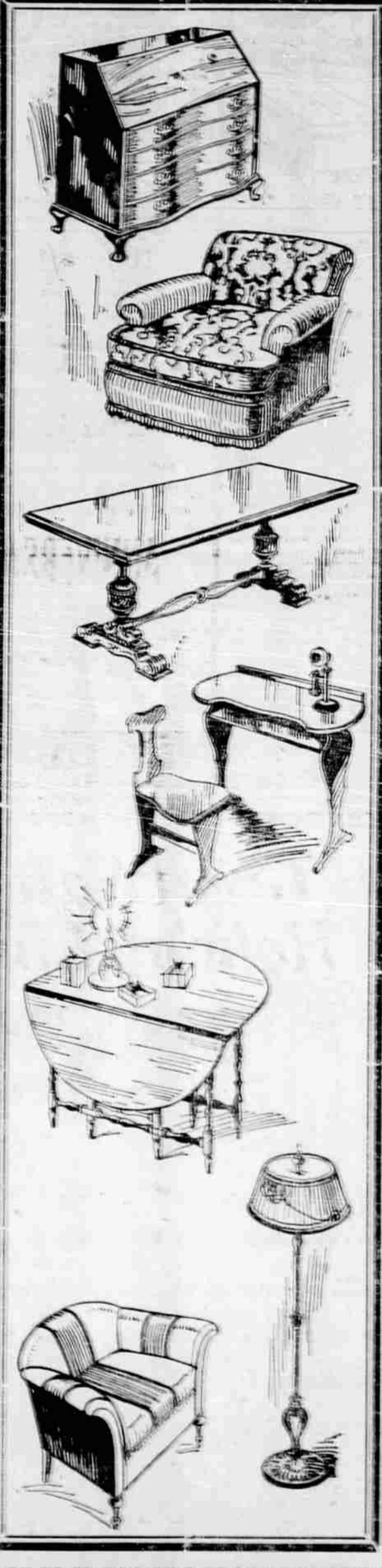
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Our guarantee of superior quality is a part of each purchase—finest hardwoods, best upholstery materials, expert cabinet work, lasting finishes are combined to produce furniture that will prove a satisfying investment whether it is a single piece or an entire suite.

Excellent values are found throughout the stock—and you may buy on your own credit terms, paying out of income, if you wish. Come in now when you can shop leisurely—we are glad to show you without insisting that you buy.

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Safety Comfort

TRAVEL BY MOTOR STAGE

La Grande to Joseph	8:00 A. M. - 4:00 P. M.
" " Baker and Boise	8:25 A. M. - 1:25 P. M.
" " Baker only	8:30 P. M.
" " Pendleton	11:00 A. M. - 7:30 P. M. - 8:15 P. M.

Concessions at Pendleton to Wain Wain, Pasco and Portland at Portland at points South and North.
La Grande Depot Phone 740
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