

CITY
EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER
OREGON: Rain and colder to-
night. Sunday clearing. Strong
northwesterly winds, decreasing
Sunday.

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LA GRANDE, OREGON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1926.

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FINANCES OF
CITY ARE IN
GOOD SHAPEApproach of New Year
Finds La Grande's
Purse HealthyHALF A MILLION
HANDLED IN YEARUnexpected Expenses
Such as Loss of Dam-
age Suits, Taken Care
of Without Crimping.

La Grande, which has made what many term as remarkable strides in advancement during the past few years along several lines and which has grown from a city of about 7,000 to one of 10,705 is approaching the first of the new year with one of the soundest financial standings in its history, city officials declare.

A survey of the financial records of the city shows that all told, 1926—yet unfinished—has seen the greatest turnover in monies in its history. The first of this month cash on hand, the treasurer's report showed, totaled \$87,486.84, a slight decrease over the figure for Nov. 1.

Much Improvement.

During the last two years several hundred thousand dollars have been expended in improvement work—including the \$105,000 sewage disposal plant, about \$45,000 for new fire equipment and remodeling of the city building, more than \$175,000 for improvements to the city's water system which included the digging of two deep wells to augment the supply and repairing the Heaver creek system until it is delivering its capacity with no loss between the intake and the consumer's faucet.

Street Improvements. Sewer, both sanitary and storm—improvements, and other improvements have been numerous and thousands of dollars have been used for these purposes. A city hospital was purchased and equipped and is now serving several patients who contracted contagious ailments.

A new municipal warehouse has been constructed and a modern grader, tractor and street sweeper have been added to the street department equipment. New automobiles, necessary for municipal work, have been purchased and are earning back their cost in work performed.

Demands Met Promptly.

The city has been able to meet all its demands promptly and still has a goodly sum of cash on hand. Unexpected expenses, like losses in court suits—such as those in the Reynolds, Bloomquist and Turner cases which will cost the city more than \$9,000—will be taken care of without making inroads into money necessary for departmental work. The city's system of finances enables it to meet such demands without any serious difficulty, and this has been proven in the past when other such cases were decided adversely to the municipality.

Half a Million Handled.

Glancing over the records one finds that more than half a million dollars have been handled by the city this year, in expenditures and receipts, a figure that many corporations do not approach in annual business.

All in all, city officials are well pleased, they report, at the financial outlook as the new year nears.

REALTY BOARD
HEARS SPEECH
BY MR. WILDE

The La Grande realty board met yesterday for noon luncheon at the Summer hotel with 15 members in attendance.

The meeting was presided over by William Miller, president. Frank Wilde gave an interesting talk on "Title Insurance," explaining what title insurance is and its purpose in taking the place of abstracts.

SELLING
A \$4,500.00
HOUSE

A La Grande professional man had a \$4,500 house for sale. He advertised it in The Observer-Want Ads. He spent the total sum of \$2.35 for various insertions. He sold the house. He got his \$4,500.

Finding the one particular individual who wanted that house and who was both willing and anxious to pay that price for it would have been an expensive and tedious job by any other means than the Observer-Want Ad method. But the Want Ad got action in a very few days. Its cost was insignificant. It required very little time, or trouble. You can do it with an Observer-Want Ad.

"Observer Advertising—A Merchandising Service"

Control Board
Changes Plans
For Visit HereOfficials to Arrive Here
Monday Evening In-
stead of Tuesday Be-
fore Joseph Trip.

Instead of arriving in La Grande at seven o'clock Tuesday morning on their way to Joseph, the state board of control will arrive here at 11:30 p. m. Monday and spend the night here before leaving for Joseph by auto Tuesday morning at 7 o'clock.

Joseph will send three cars to La Grande to convey the members of the board and their party and two cars will go from La Grande. The party besides the members of the board of control, Governor Walter M. Pierce, S. A. Koser, secretary of state, who are also members of the state board of regents, and Thomas B. Kay, state treasurer, will be their secretary, Carl Abrams, Dr. G. C. Bellinger, of Salem, superintendent of the Oregon state tuberculosis hospital there; Dr. Marshall, of New York, tuberculosis specialist; and representatives from the Portland Journal and the Telegram.

After looking over the town of Joseph in regard to the location of the Eastern Oregon tuberculosis hospital there, the board will return to La Grande Monday afternoon, where Governor Pierce and Secretary Koser will join the other members of the board of regents in inspecting sites for the location of the Eastern Oregon normal school here.

Arrangements are complete for the noon luncheon with the regents as guests of the chamber of commerce, and the banquet in the evening with the regents and the board of control and their party as guests.

Besides the talks there will be community singing at the luncheon, music by the chamber of commerce quartet and a solo by Raymond G. Williams.

No tickets will be sold at the door for the banquet, and for luncheon the ticket sale will stop as soon as the number reaches 60. The regular prices being charged for the forum luncheon and the banquet tickets are 75 cents each. Those wishing to attend the meeting should call for tickets.

Lumbermen From
2 States Are Here
For Conference

With 24 lumbermen from Southwestern Idaho, Wallawa, Union and Baker counties in attendance, the regular monthly meeting of Eastern Oregon lumbermen started at 12:30 o'clock with luncheon at the Summer hotel, with the Mt. Emily Lumber company as host.

A. J. Stange, president of the Mt. Emily company, is presiding. Most of the afternoon will be spent in a general discussion of matters of interest to lumbermen.

About four o'clock is the time scheduled for the close of the meeting.

Community Chorus
Develops Rapidly

A community endeavor that has been quietly and effectively developing into an organization that will rank with such organizations as the La Grande municipal league in public estimation is the community chorus which is being trained under the supervision of the Neighborhood club. About two months ago the chorus held its initial rehearsal and from the start, great interest has been exhibited by leaders and participants. W. W. Nussbaum, director of music in the public schools, was chosen leader. Mrs. Ray E. Murphy is "business officer" between the Neighborhood club and the chorus and is giving much of her time and enthusiasm to the venture.

Nussbaum puts the participants, numbering 50 or more, through difficult selections without loss of time or opportunity from 7:15 to 8:15 each Thursday evening at the library auditorium. Mrs. Harley Richardson is at the piano.

It is anticipated that the chorus will make its debut during the holidays.

Outline Plans for
"Midnight Matinee"

All plans are now outlined for the Midnight Matinee to be presented by the La Grande post of the American Legion at the Arcade theater on New Year's eve, and those taking part in the special acts have already begun to hold regular practices.

One of the most novel and entertaining programs ever offered here, including eight vaudeville acts, is promised. The committee is taking precautions to see that each act goes off promptly.

The program will start at 12 o'clock sharp, allowing people to attend dances and private parties before the matinee.

A limited number of reserved seats will be sold, the seat sale to be announced later.

METHODISTS
PLEDGE LAW
ENFORCEMENTThousand Men Attending
Portland Conference
State ViewsDISTRICT COUNCIL
PLAN IS ADOPTEDLegislative Committee for
State Work Is Urged—
Evangelism Is Part of
Program.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 11 (AP)—Inspired by stirring speeches by national and international leaders at the two-day Methodist Men's council here, the 1,000 men in attendance, outlined in resolutions a campaign for evangelism and law enforcement in Oregon.

Resolutions adopted provide for organization of district councils in all parts of the state similar to the one held in Portland to carry to every church some course of action either through a Methodist brotherhood or men's council; creation of legislative committee to represent the council before the state legislature; mobilization of Christian men for law enforcement.

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Sales Increasing.

More Christmas seals, the money from which is used in the fight against tuberculosis in Oregon, were sold during the second week than during the first, and an even larger average is expected during the next two weeks.

No reports have been received from other sales in the county, but all are doing their part to send in their portion of Union county's quota. Mrs. Floyd McKennon is county chairman and Mrs. Evelyn Hearnshaw is city chairman.

Their majority this week, however, was very small over the number sold by the women of the latter Day Saints church.

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Smith To Report
M. E. Conference

S. C. Smith will be the principal speaker at the Men's Forum tomorrow morning, bringing a report of the church Laymen's Council held in Portland last week when the greatest "team" of international Methodist officials ever sent to Oregon addressed a state-wide gathering of men. Smith and the Rev. H. W. Parker returned this morning.

"Captain Applejack" Delights Big
Audience on First Presentation

"Aces! Aces! All aces!" That embraces the members of the cast, the management, and "Captain Applejack" itself, the three-act comedy drama which was presented by the junior class at the high school auditorium last night to a crowded house.

In the writer's opinion, the play ranks head and shoulders above any similar vehicle of entertainment presented in local high school circles during the past two or three years. Well fitted for amateur production and replete with wholesome comedy, it furnishes amusement and plenty of laughs as well as a subtle love affair that is no more than suspected until the final act.

Treasure and Romance.

The old, old—yet always alluring—treasure hunt and the burlesque of an Englishman from a colonial of conservatism into a bright, modern world of adventure and romance are the central parts around which the play is written. Andrew Applejohn, reveries back to the days of his ancestor "Captain Applejack," notorious buccannier, and the effects of his transformation are to say the least startling—even to Ambrose. How his household takes it is a subject for laughter. After a piratical dream in the second act, he thwarts a clever band of crooks in the third and his efforts are

Default Will
Quash School
Book AdoptionTurner and Koser Hold
Balance of Power—
Governor Pierce Op-
posed.

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 11 (AP)—The school book adoption made by the state text book commission in November will be quashed by default on the part of the state board of education in the injunction suit brought by David F. Graham against the state board. Secretary of State Koser and State School Superintendent R. B. Turner, two members of the state board of education, have joined in an agreement to default. Governor Pierce, the other member, will appear in court. Turner suggests that the text book situation should be investigated by the legislature.

The default by Koser and Turner will mean that they will be personally enjoined from signing the contracts with the publishing companies and even if the governor should win in the suit, individually he could not alone execute the contracts.

Koser, Turner Hold Power.

This development grows out of the controversy that has waged around the adoption with Governor Pierce and three of his appointees on the text book commission comprising one faction, and two other members of the commission supported by Turner on the other side. The former faction held a majority on the text book commission. But the contracts are signed by the board of education on which Koser and Turner are a majority.

Koser and Turner have both sent letters to Attorney General Van Winkle asking him not to appear in the case in their behalf.

Turner, in his letter declares that certain circumstances surround the adoption "inspiring doubt in my mind whether all the members of the commission had in mind and purpose solely the welfare of the schools," and he declares that in his opinion some unnecessary changes were made, thereby entailing heavy expenses to the patrons of the schools.

Turner's Claims.

"Mature and careful consideration was not accorded to all adoption made," says Turner. "The agricultural and arithmetic sections occupied the entire morning session," he adds, "and adoption in 15 subjects were provided into the afternoon."

Turner further claims that some of the texts adopted have an official examination proved "flagrantly inferior and unsuitable" for use in the schools.

"It would seem desirable," he concludes, "that opportunity be given to the legislature to investigate the textbook situation."

Koser's Letter.

Secretary Koser writes Van Winkle as follows:

"In view of the wide publicity at—"

Benefit Dance to
Be Staged Monday

To add to the American Legion convention fund the social committee of the La Grande lodge of Elks is sponsoring a benefit dance to be given in the Elks hall room Monday evening, Dec. 12.

Dick Lindsay's orchestra will furnish music and dancing will start at 9 o'clock.

This dance is the second of a series given by civic and fraternal organizations of La Grande for the benefit of the convention fund. The other dance was sponsored by the chamber of commerce entertainment committee.

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STATE NEEDS
\$20,958,806
FOR 2 YEARSBudget Commission Ap-
proves Sum After Sev-
eral Days of LaborLEGISLATURE MAY
DEMAND CHANGESOf Total \$10,312,188 Is
Within the Oregon Six
Per Cent Tax Limita-
tion.

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 11 (AP)—The state budget commission has approved the total amount of \$20,958,806 as the requirements for all state activities during 1927 and 1928. This is the amount that if approved outright by the legislature would be raised by regular taxation and the special millage levies. The state activities made requests for \$21,593,297, but \$634,491 was shaved by the commission.

The ways and means committee of the legislature had never been known to agree with the budget commission on all items, and the total amount is certain to be revised upward or downward by the lawmakers this winter.

Of the total amount approved \$10,312,188 comes within the 6 percent tax limitation and \$10,646,618 outside of it. The latter covers the following: market roads, \$2,465,677; Oregon Agricultural college \$1,523,214; University of Oregon \$1,142,412; Monmouth normal school \$133,282; war veterans state aid \$1,167,878; elementary public schools \$4,491,355.

Aside from its millage tax revenue the Monmouth normal school will receive \$100,000, according to the commission's decision, by appropriation. It had requested enough to build two buildings aggregating \$325,000 but these were disapproved. This was one of the most severe cuts made by the commission.

(Continued on Page Five)

Ormiston Plans
To Fight Return
To Los Angeles

CHICAGO, Dec. 11 (AP)—Kenneth G. Ormiston, Los Angeles operator, is in Chicago, but whether he will be taken back to Los Angeles to answer charges of conspiracy to defeat justice remains a question for the future.

Los Angeles authorities want the long missing figure in the Alvin Karpis-McArthur kidnaping case and are preparing extradition papers, but Ormiston said he would fight any attempt to get him farther west than Chicago.

Ormiston arrived here last night from Harrisburg, Pa., accompanied by two detectives and a newspaperman, and immediately went into conference with his attorney, Edward H. S. Martin, who has been his mouthpiece since his disappearance several months ago.

So far as Chicago police know, Ormiston is not under arrest, although one of his companions on the trip to Chicago was Sergeant Harry Donnelly, of Chief of Police Collins' personal staff.

Lila Returns to
Catholic Church

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 11 (AP)—The Times says Lila Grey Chaplin, estranged wife of Charlie Chaplin, has announced the intention of returning to the Roman Catholic church which faith she says she renounced when she married the film comedian. She would have her two children baptized by the Catholic church so that "they might enjoy the consolation," she says she "never knew."

"Now that my marriage has turned out to be a failure, I can return to my church. My mother and my grandparents were raised and grew up as devout members of the Roman Catholic church. In my efforts to promote marital happiness, I consented to stake everything and turned my back on my family's religion. Now I can turn to the faith of my childhood," Mrs. Chaplin declared.

Mrs. Chaplin explained that her separation from the Catholic church occurred at the time of her marriage to Chaplin two years ago. The marriage could not be recognized under the precepts of the church because Chaplin had been divorced. His first wife was Mildred Harris, film actress.

25 Killed When
Trains Collide

HAIRIN, Manchuria, Dec. 11 (AP)—Twenty-five persons were killed and 40 injured mostly Chinese, when freight and passenger trains collided near Tielching in Shengking, on the southern Manchurian railway.

LEADS CRUSADE



The Rev. Henry Beal, dean of St. Paul's Pro-Cathedral, Los Angeles, has been appointed chairman of a commission to participate in the "Bishop's Crusade" during January. The purpose is a spiritual "stock-taking" and is not a revival nor fund raising movement.

GIRL, 17, LOOTS
BANK IN TEXASDrives Cashier into Vault
with Pistol—Gets at
Least \$2,400

AUSTIN, Tex., Dec. 11 (AP)—A 17-year-old girl, alone robbed the Farmers National bank at Buda, Texas, of an undetermined sum today. Word to officers here says she forced the cashier S. A. Jamieson at the point of a pistol to unlock the vault and then made him enter it. The girl was last seen in a small coupe driving to Austin. Cashier Jamieson said that in the first check up he missed two bundles of money, each containing \$1,200.

Breaks Out, Then
Back Into Prison

DALLAS, Ore., Dec. 11 (AP)—William Quarter, of Independence serving a sentence in Polk county jail for liquor law violations, slipped out of jail late yesterday and was discovered about 10:30 p. m. trying to break his way back in. Two telephone girls saw him balancing on the door and they phoned to Marshall County, who went to the jail and assisted Quarter back to his abode. Officers said today that he had been out for a ride with a young woman friend.

How he managed to get out of the jail is not known but officers supposed he hid out when the prisoners were getting in the wood for the evening and his absence was not noted.

Princess Ileana
To Marry Humbert

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 11 (AP)—Princess Ileana will marry Prince Humbert, crown prince of Italy, within six months if King Ferdinand lives or as soon thereafter as the period of mourning ceases, should the monarch die. The Associated Press has been given this information in circles close to the royal palace.

Ileana, youngest daughter of King Ferdinand and Queen Marie, is 17 years old. Humbert is 22. The betrothal of the princess and the prince, so the story goes, was arranged at the time of the Italian-Rumanian convention last September when among other things Rumania obtained a credit of 200,000,000 lei from Italy. The convention at the time aroused great criticism in Rumania, owing to the fact that the credit embraced mostly material for the railroad. The government objected to taking possession of it, declaring it old and obsolete.

PLANS NORTHWEST SURVEY

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 11 (AP)—Future needs of the Pacific coast and Pacific northwest district for agricultural products, in the light of necessity for development of the Columbia basin irrigation project are to be revealed by a survey being conducted by the state department of reclamation and conservation. R. K. Tiffany, state hydraulic engineer, told members of the Columbia basin committee of the Spokane chamber of commerce here last night.

Defense Rests
In Fall-Doheny
Oil Fraud TrialCourt Adjourned Until
Monday—Jury to Get
Case About Middle of
Next Week.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AP)—Presentation of evidence was completed today in the trial of Albert B. Fall and Edward L. Doheny on a charge of criminal conspiracy.

Both prosecution and defense rested finally after a swift knitting together of the last tangled threads of evidence, leaving only the closing arguments and the judge's charge before the jury retires to consider its verdict.

It is probable the jury will be sent to their consultation room by the middle of next week to decide whether a punishable offense was committed when Doheny sent Fall \$100,000 in a little black bag in 1921, when Fall was interior secretary and before the Doheny oil interests received a lease on the Elk Hills naval oil reserves.

End Hastened.

The end of the three weeks of testimony was hastened unexpectedly by the decision of counsel for Fall to present no evidence but the state made two character witnesses heard just before adjournment yesterday.

Reopening their case for a moment, the Doheny lawyers called John McCormack, the singer, who vouched for the good reputation of Doheny.

In a short rebuttal the prosecution then presented further testimony that Fall had withheld information from the senate oil committee and that the government's arrangement with the Doheny company was not looked upon with enthusiasm by some officials of the navy department.

Adjourns Until Monday.

There was no rebuttal, and court adjourned at 11:42 a. m. until Monday morning when the arguments of counsel will begin. The court also requested counsel to submit proposals for instructions to the jury on Monday morning.

Sudden termination of the defense case apparently surprised the prosecution. It had been decided on in overnight conferences among counsel, who assessed the possible effect of several important

(Continued on Page 5)

Japanese Ruler
Critically Ill;
Pulse Is Weaker

TOKYO, Dec. 11 (AP)—Six oxygen tanks were installed today in the sick room of Emperor Koohin, indicating his condition is critical. The Empress Sadako is at his bedside. The stricken ruler's weak pulse is causing considerable anxiety. Heart stimulants are necessary.

The navy is considering dispatching a cruiser to Vancouver, B. C., to bear Prince Chichibu home, in case he is unable to make connections with a trans-Pacific liner on his arrival there from England.

The entire nation is anxiously watching the report from Hayashi, where the emperor is confined in his villa. Holiday business already has suffered. The merchants may lose millions if New Year's parties and other celebrations are halted.

Quarrel About
Feminine Charms

NEW YORK, Dec. 11 (AP)—Bewitching eyes and a provocative mouth hold a greater charm for men than shapely legs, in the opinion of some of New York's feminine notables.

They are quoted by the New York American which was prompted by Dr. Marie Charlotte De Gollere Davenport, of Vienna, said in Washington: "Girls, cultivate your legs above your mind. They are your most important asset. They count over education, intellect and culture."

Dr. Davenport, who is 162 years old, was reported as displaying a pair of trim ankles in execution of her winning a husband 47 years her junior.

Collegians Tried
in Cheating Case

EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 11 (AP)—Trial of six University of Oregon students under suspicion for cheating in monthly quizzes was held yesterday before the student advisory committee, and resulted in imposition of a fine of several hours of university credit on one of the numbers.

Two of the six who were heard were found guilty. Two were not proved guilty but the committee expressed the opinion that they had been careless in protecting themselves against the appearance of guilt. A fifth student confessed having copied the work of the sixth, and was fined for it in credit hours.

REPUBLICANS
OPEN RANKS
TO FRAZNorth Dakota Senator
Expected to Accept
Offer by RegularsHOPE TO REMEDY
BREAK IN PARTYSenator McNary, of Ore-
gon, Slated for Chair-
manship of Agriculture
Committee.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AP)—The republican committee on committee today agreed to invite Senator Frazier, republican incumbent of North Dakota, to resume his place in the republican party's councils and no committees as a straight out republican.

The committee definitely decided to recommend Senator Norris, republican, Nebraska, to be chairman of the senate judiciary committee as the successor to the late Senator Cummins, republican, Iowa, although Norris campaigned for William B. Wilson, democratic senatorial candidate, in Pennsylvania.

Senator McNary, republican, Oregon, was slated for chairman of the agriculture committee.

The committee assignments will be laid before the republican conference on Monday for official ratification.

By this move republican leaders hope to heal the break caused by the election of four insurgent senators, including Senator Frazier, from the republican caucus, because of their support of the independent presidential candidacy of the Senator La Follette.

Senator Frazier is the only one of the four now in the senate. He has indicated that he will accept his former committee assignments, which will make him chairman of the committee on Indian affairs after March 4.

VOTE BRIDGE BILL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AP)—The senate today passed a bill authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Columbia river between Longview, Wash., and Rainier, Ore.

The measure was passed without a record vote after Senator McNary, republican, Oregon, had sought unsuccessfully to amend it so as to require an investigation to determine the public necessity for the structure. It has not yet been acted upon by the house.

Under terms of the bill, W. D. Comer and Wesley Vandercor would be authorized to construct and maintain the bridge and collect tolls to pay the cost.

Senator Jones, republican, and Phil, democrat, Washington led the fight for the measure. Senator McNary contended the bridge would obstruct the traffic on the river between Portland and sea.

An amendment by Senator McKeller, democrat, Tennessee, proposing that the bridge should be turned over to Washington and Oregon and made a free bridge at the end of 30 years was defeated without a record vote.

COOLIDGE MAKES REQUEST

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AP)—President Coolidge today asked congress for a supplemental appropriation of \$175,000,000 to be used for refunding taxes collected illegally by the internal revenue bureau.

APPLE KING OF
AMERICA DIES
IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 11 (AP)—Joseph H. Starnett, known among producers men as the "apple king of America," and credited with introducing the honey dew melon in this country, is dead.

He left Germany 40 years ago at the age of 13 and his first job was rolling barrels of apples for a truck man. He expected to get a quarter for his work, but was given his choice between a bag of apples and a swift kick. He ate three apples and sold the rest for 50 cents. This was the start of his business which had a \$15,000,000 annual turnover at the time of his death.

Women Missionaries
Isolated in China

LONDON, Dec. 11 (AP)—Two American women missionaries are reported to be isolated in Yunnan, Yunnan province, China through the capture of the city by Chinese bandits who massacred many of the inhabitants.

Reports from China today said the two missionaries were British, but the China inland mission, to which they are attached, said they were believed to be Americans. They are the Misses A. Kratzer and J. C. Jack, and were sent from the mission headquarters at Philadelphia.