

CITY
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REGENTS ARE
WELCOMED TO
LA GRANDEState Board of Control
Goes to Joseph After
Breakfast HereINSPECT 6 SITES
THIS AFTERNOONVisitors to Leave for Pen-
dleton This Evening
After Attending Ban-
quet in M. E. Church.

The warmth of La Grande's welcome today to the Oregon normal school board of regents, and the state board of control served as an antidote for the sub-zero weather that Mother Nature inserted into the scheme of things. It comments from members of the party may be taken as a criterion.

Most members of the official group were surprised to find that the mercury had dropped to 12 below not only in La Grande but also in Baker and Pendleton.

Arriving here at two o'clock this morning from the Copper City the official delegation "hit the hay" in short order, after being greeted by the more faithful members of the local "donut delegation."

Guests at breakfast

At eight o'clock this morning the day's schedule officially began with a breakfast at the high school domestic science department which found every visitor present with the exception of Secretary of State Sam Koser, who is declared to have over-slept.

No speech-making interrupted the enjoyment of the breakfast, and the chamber of commerce quartet—G. L. Dutton, Elmer Stoddard, Sherwood Williams and G. S. Dillen—delighted the two scores with their usual harmonious and pleasing musical offerings at the meal's conclusion, with the 41 innumerable satisfied and flattered by the appetizing offerings of the D. R. department, which served the regents, accompanied by a number of La Grande men, left for Elgin in cars to spend a short time there looking over normal school prospects. They returned late this morning and were present as guests of honor at the noon-day chamber of commerce luncheon in the summer grill.

The luncheon, presided over by Dr. W. T. Phipps, was more in the nature of an informal welcome—no speeches being given as at the morning gathering. Each member of the visiting party was introduced and the local members then announced their names and occupations.

Raymond O. Williams, accompanied at the piano by his wife, sang "The Open Road" and the applause was so great that he furnished an encore.

The luncheon was adjourned at 12:50 so as to permit the regents to have as much time as is necessary to complete their schedule here.

Board at Joseph
The board of control, which was to have been driven to Joseph, instead took the branch line train, thus giving the Joseph delegation, which accompanied them, a considerable time to present its case in favor of securing the Eastern Oregon tuberculosis hospital, before the actual inspection. About a half an hour at Joseph, and then the board looking over the ground before starting on the return trip to La Grande, which will bring the members here in time for the evening banquet.

This afternoon, escorted by members of the chamber of commerce and city officials, the board of regents started on its inspection trip of the city. La Grande's \$195,000 sewage disposal plant, the city water system, the schools, library and other features of the municipal attractions were all

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THE
ANNUAL
XMAS RUSH

Gift buying is the order of the day. Christmas preparations consume most of the time of most of the family. The annual rush is here.

How convenient it is, how saving in time and effort when both are at a premium, to sit down in the evening and have the progressive merchants of La Grande tell you, through their Observer advertising messages, the many gifts from which you can choose! New things, novel things, the inexpensive things, "Racking your brain" for an idea on what to give is not necessary. A host of suggestions are made in the advertisements each day—read them. They'll help you get the job done quickly, efficiently. They'll save you time and money.

"Observer Advertising—A Merchandising Service"

Elks Preparing
To Serve 2,000
Christmas DayLodge to Erect Tree for
Kiddies Sunday—Sur-
vey of City Under Way
to Find Needy.

Members of the Elks lodge Christmas committee began work in earnest this week preparing a happy Christmas for the needy families and the kiddies of La Grande. The first meeting to sack candy, nuts and oranges and to make other preparations for the annual Christmas party, will be held this evening, and all Elks are invited to attend and lend their assistance.

The big fir tree, which the children of the city look forward to from year to year, and for which the money made from the Elks' 48 show is expended, will be put up Sunday at the intersection of Depot street and Washington avenue.

To Serve 2,000 Kiddies
Nuts and candy enough to fill 2,000 sacks have already been purchased along with 2,000 toys, which will also be distributed among the children on Christmas day.

Every member of the lodge is trying to locate the needy families of the city before Christmas day, when baskets of provisions will be sent to them. They are urging anyone who knows of a family in need of one of these Christmas baskets to report to one of the lodge members.

To Aid Needy Families
Besides the Christmas tree the children of the city will also be entertained at a free moving picture show, to be given at the Star theater, a Parbe.

Xmas Packages
Bound East Must
Be Mailed Soon

If anyone in La Grande is mailing Christmas packages to the New England states tomorrow is the last time to post them to be certain of delivery before Christmas day.

A schedule of when packages should be mailed from La Grande to reach their destination before Christmas has been arranged and was announced yesterday by R. L. Huron, postmaster here.

Dec. 14 is the "deadline" for packages going to Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut. Dec. 15—New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Michigan, Florida, Ohio, Indiana, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Dec. 17—Kentucky, Tennessee, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas and New Mexico. Dec. 18—Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona, Nevada, Montana, Utah, California, South of San Francisco. Dec. 20—Northern California, Idaho, Southwest Oregon and Western Washington. Dec. 21—Balance of Oregon and Washington.

Rail Officials to
Attend Board Meet

Several local railroad officials left last evening on train No. 23 for Seattle where they will attend a meeting of the advisory board which is made up of representatives of shippers, railroad officials, and government officials.

This board includes one of 10 national districts and embraces the entire northwest. About 500 representatives are expected.

Those who are attending from here are: C. E. Roberts and H. R. Colburn, assistant superintendents; A. J. Van Valkenburg, dispatcher; Joe H. Keeney, local agent; and T. A. McKinstry, chief dispatcher, who was accompanied by Mrs. McKinstry.

Students Seeking
Holiday Positions

The Hi-Dads employment committee is endeavoring to find positions for 18 high school students during the holiday season. Any one having employment is asked to communicate with Dr. W. P. McAdory, who will in turn get in touch with the six boys and four girls.

Unknown Schooner
Signals for Help

WILMINGTON, N. C., Dec. 14 (AP)—Call for assistance were received here today from an unidentified four masted schooner reported ashore on Peeling Pan. Four tugs proceeded to the scene from Wilmington and southport. A heavy gale was blowing.

ATTACKED



For the fourth time in recent months George H. Dale, fighting Muncie (Ind.) editor, has been attacked by persons unknown. This time a shot was fired through a window of his home, narrowly missing his daughter, Elizabeth. Dale, who gained national prominence by his fight on the Klan, was arrested recently on a charge of slander and is now being protected in the Muncie jail.

ONE PROHI LAW
IS HELD UNFAIRSupreme Court Declares
Statute Unconstitu-
tional—City Wins

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 14 (AP)—One of the Oregon prohibition laws of 1919 insofar as it allows the property of an innocent person to be forfeited to the state without the previous conviction of any one, and without the opportunity of jury trial of the forfeiture, is unconstitutional, according to an opinion of the state supreme court today.

The automobile belonging to Mrs. Heffling was forfeited to the state because of an alleged act of her husband in carrying on his person while in the car a bottle of liquor. The grand jury failed to indict him. His wife was without knowledge of his unlawful act in carrying the liquor.

Rand's Opinion
The Rand opinion reminds the state to the lower court with instructions to call a jury and let it pass on the question whether the car should be forfeited.

Among other opinions were: City of La Grande, appellant, vs. municipal court of city of La Grande, appeal from Union county; appeal from conviction for violation of city ordinance. Opinion of Justice Burnett. Judge J. Knowles reversed.

Girl Is Wounded
By Prohi Agents

NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 14 (AP)—Bullets fired by two men claiming to be prohibition agents last night seriously wounded Dorothy Carrington, 16-year-old daughter of the Rev. W. B. Carrington and hit four automobiles passing along a highway.

Basketball Outlook Promising;
From 50 to 60 Athletes Turn Out

With from 50 to 60 aspirants turning out each evening among them several veterans of the national court, basketball prospects at La Grande high school look promising.

Practice was started last Wednesday and since then interest has been running high, especially with Coach Jan McKinnis finding considerable talent to work with.

Already fans are expressing hope that a district championship may be won this year. Much hope is held in McKinnis' suitability as a mentor. In Littleton, Colo., he turned out some exceptional hoop teams, almost of state championship caliber. With the material that remains from last season as a nucleus, it is believed that he can form a winning quintet.

The schedule has been con-

FARM RELIEF
MEASURE IS
INTRODUCEDSenator McNary, Oregon,
Presents Revised Piece
of LegislationPROPOSERS ON
TOES FOR BATTLEDesigned to Facilitate the
Handling of Surplus
Crops, Bill Is Classed
as a Necessity.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 (AP)—The battle over farm relief legislation was reopened today in the senate when the famous McNary-Haugen bill, revised in an effort to win necessary support, was introduced by Chairman McNary, of the agricultural committee.

Through its presentation, farm relief advocates, who have been awaiting a vehicle of debate, from now on will be in a position to press their cause whenever the opportunity presents itself.

The measure which is designed to facilitate the handling of surplus crops, was described by Senator McNary as necessary to improve the condition of the American farmer and to protect his standard of living.

Features of bill
"It combines the plan for stabilizing five basic commodities," he said, "cotton, wheat, corn, hogs and rice, through the use of a stabilization trust drawn from each with a credit plan for stabilizing all farm commodities insofar as it can be done through the wide extension of credit to cooperation. It is not in any particular price fixing device or plan."

"The bill is essentially a surplus control bill, the sole aim being to stabilize prices through control of the surplus. For the purpose, a separate stabilization fund is provided for each of the five basic commodities. These stabilization funds are to be drawn from the marketed units of each commodity and are to be employed in disposing of the surplus by co-operative or by persons engaged in processing such commodities."

"No public funds may be used directly in effecting such control, but loans may be made from a revolving fund of \$250,000,000 to the several commodity stabilization funds in anticipation of the collection of the equalization fees—all such loans to be repaid with interest. The federal farm loan, which would be created by the bill, will not itself buy or sell anything on its own account."

"All reference to price levels and

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Ruler's Passing
Due Momentarily;
Condition Worse

TOKYO, Dec. 14 (AP)—An announcement of the death of Emperor Yoshihito is expected. Although the entire country is praying, it is waiting.

The household department in a bulletin issued tonight, said that the emperor's temperature, pulse and respiration were slightly lower, but did not indicate that his condition had improved. His temperature a few hours earlier was nearly 104.

Prince Regent Hirohito and Regentess Nagako decided to spend the night with the stricken monarch at Hayama, instead of returning to Tokyo as planned.

Meanwhile the staff of physicians labored to alleviate the suffering of Yoshihito, whose weeks of illness from bronchitis developed into pneumonia Saturday.

When the Empress Haruko died outside of Tokyo several years ago, her body was taken unceremoniously to the palace in Tokyo, where her death was announced.

Defense Begins
Final Attempt
For Fall, DohenyIndications Are That
Jury Will Get Oil
Fraud Case Before
Sundown Tomorrow.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 (AP)—The defense began today its final attempt to beat back the tide of prosecution argument in the Fall Doheny oil conspiracy trial. With every prospect that the case would be in the hands of the jury by sundown tomorrow, a succession of defense attorneys were allotted a six-hour period to which to tell the jurymen there was no taint of guilt in Edward L. Doheny's loan of \$100,000 to Albert H. Fall, while Fall was in the cabinet and before Doheny was awarded the lease to the Elkhills oil reserve.

Except for a half hour at the opening of court, during which Owen J. Roberts, for the government, completed the prosecution argument begun yesterday, the defense was given all of today's session for their replies.

Roberts repeated again the charge that the \$100,000 was part of a conspiracy to defraud the government.

"Fall knew that this \$100,000 loan was dirty business," said the prosecutor, "Fall told the senate committee in a letter written on Christmas day 1923 (two years after the loan was made) that he never had approached Doheny in connection with the loan."

"And what has been the charge of the defense case? To excuse, explain—and forget."

He also asked the jury to consider that Joseph J. Cotter, vice president of Doheny's pan-American company, and Doheny's confidential agent in the oil negotiations, had not been called to the witness stand.

Mentions Cotter
"Cotter was the one man who knew all the angles of the case. He was in those negotiations from May, 1921, until December, 1922. He talked with the navy officials, the interior department officials, he went to Haysville, New York, Washington, Three Rivers, N. M. (Cedar house), Los Angeles—Cotter was everywhere—and he sat within 20 feet of this witness stand for days, and was never called to the stand."

Frank J. Hogan, chief counsel for Doheny, was the first of the defense lawyers to take up the argument. He denied directly Roberts' charge that any wrongdoing attended the \$100,000 transaction, which he described as nothing but a loan given by Doheny.

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WALLOWA SHEEP
REFUGE FAVOREDState Game Commission
Endorses Plan—Bears
Still Classed Predatory

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 14 (AP)—Oregon hunters would hark back to bow and arrow days if the Corvallis archery club has its way. The club has presented a resolution to the state game commission asking that the bow and arrow be specified as common instruments for the taking of game, and that the commission encourage their use in every possible way.

It was pointed out that game conservation would be greatly aided by such action. The commission at its meeting late yesterday received the suggestion in kindly spirit and took it under advisement with hints that it might take the steps recommended.

The commission raised non-resident hunting licenses from \$10 to \$25 as a result of reports from Oregon that Idaho hunters were swarming into Oregon to evade high Idaho licenses.

Trapping licenses will be raised from \$2 to \$5 and for dealers licenses from \$5 to \$10. Other license fees were unchanged.

The commission voted to recommend refuge at Wallowa Lake for mountain sheep, in Lake county for mule deer, in Douglas county for white tail deer, and a proposed silver mountain game refuge in Douglas county.

Except in Josephine, Jackson and Klamath counties, where bears are protected, they still will be rated as predatory animals.

Portland Studio
Swept by Flames

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 14 (AP)—Fire today swept the two and a half story frame studio here occupied by John L. Stark and company, decorators, and Miller and Minter, scenic artists, wrecking the interior and doing heavy damage to the building, owned by H. E. Courter.

Loss was tentatively fixed from \$5000 to \$10,000.

THE HIGHEST



Work will be begun next month on the tallest building in the world—the Hook tower at Detroit. This is an architect's drawing of the building which will be 875 feet high and will have 81 stories.

State Irrigation
Bill Is Drafted

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 14 (AP)—A bill designed to place state irrigation and reclamation districts on a sound economic basis, prepared by the legislative committee of the Oregon reclamation congress, was scheduled for consideration at a meeting of directors of the congress today in the chamber of commerce.

The tentative measure provides that a reclamation board supplant the desert land board, handle all irrigation matters of the state, investigate trouble of irrigation projects and to advise districts relative to financial policy.

Umatilla County
Wheat Is Unhurt

PENDLETON, Dec. 14 (AP)—Wheat in Umatilla county has not been harmed by the two days cold spell, according to farmers here today. The three-inch blanket of snow which fell Sunday and Sunday night has proved ample protection against the wintry blasts.

Albany Will Fight
Sewer Construction

ALBANY, Ore., Dec. 14 (AP)—Albany's mayor, J. H. Robinson, was on record today as opposed to the bill drafted by the Oregon Anti-Pollution league that will be introduced to the coming term of the legislature. The bill if passed would require cities to reconstruct their sewer system to relieve contamination of river. Mayor Robinson urged that the legislature defeat the bill.

The mayor stated he had taken this position because chemical engineers have not yet devised sewage disposal plants that are 100 per cent efficient.

Jackrabbits Lure
Wallowa Hunters

WALLOWA, Ore., Dec. 14 (Special)—Hunting of jack rabbits is proving a leading sport for hunters in this section at present. The rabbits are quite plentiful in the hill section, and a number of hunters who have been out during the past week report getting a number of large ones. The work of the biological survey hunters against the coyotes has been very successful as only a few coyotes are seen this winter.

Charges Against
Tunney Dismissed

NEW YORK, Dec. 14 (AP)—Convicted that proceedings brought against Gene Tunney, world's heavyweight champion, and six others charged with violation of the boxing law because they appeared on the stage of a local theater, were "not instituted in good faith," Magistrate Silbermann discharged all the defendants today.

House Approves
Baker Project
AppropriationMovement to Make Con-
struction Mandatory Is
Defeated Earlier in
Day.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 (AP)—The section of the interior department bill appropriating nearly \$12,000,000 for continuance of western reclamation projects was approved without change today by the house.

A move to write into the interior department appropriation bill a clause to make it mandatory on the interior secretary to start construction work on the Baker reclamation project in Oregon was defeated today in the house.

The amendment by Representative Bankhead, democrat, Alabama, was opposed by Representative Cramton, republican, Michigan, in charge of the bill, who declared the appropriation for the project was itself a demand upon Secretary Work to begin construction.

The \$450,000 appropriation for the project was included in the bill by the subcommittee, which drafted it after the secretary had refused to declare the project feasible. Work requested that if the construction was ordered congress assume responsibility for its feasibility.

YOUNG HUSBAND
TO DEFEND WIFESecret Marriage Comes
to Light After Girl
Robs Bank in Texas

AUSTIN, Tex., Dec. 14 (AP)—Ollis Rogers, young Amarillo attorney who maintained secrecy regarding his marriage last year to Rebecca Bradley, while they were students at the University of Texas, today was to make his first appearance in district court here in defense of his wife who is charged with robbing the Farmers National bank at Buda.

Married at Georgetown, Texas, October last, they continued their university courses the husband graduating from the law college while his bride was awarded a bachelor of arts degree. They declared that Rogers' income as an attorney might prove inadequate to support a home and agreed to separate while he developed a legal practice.

Rebecca obtained a position as stenographer in the office of Dan Moody, attorney general and governor elect, and continued her university work with the view of securing higher degree. Rogers opened a law office at Amarillo and so well did they guard their secret that Rebecca's mother with whom she lived here denied the marriage when Ollis announced he was coming to the defense of his wife.

Conviction on robbery charges with firearms carries a minimum penalty of five years in prison in Texas, while the maximum penalty is death.

Chicago Receives
Ormiston Warrant

CHICAGO, Dec. 14 (AP)—A warrant was received today by chief of Police Morgan A. Collins for the arrest of Kenneth Ormiston, former radio operator sought in California in connection with the Alvin Karpis-McPerson kidnapping case.

Turks Want Their
Faces Uncovered

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 14 (AP)—In striking contrast with the sweeping prohibition of freeness last year, the followers of President Mustafa Kemal Pasha now are cautiously opening an attack on women's veils.

The skirmish began last fall in speeches by the president in which he exhorted women to show their faces. Now the battle has definitely begun in edicts promulgated by some of the provinces obliging women to uncover their faces.

Vesuvius Due to
Go on Rampage

NAPLES, Italy, Dec. 14 (AP)—Another serious eruption of Mt. Vesuvius is predicted, in consequence of the recent heavy rains. Tons of water have gathered in the crater within the last few days.

Steamer Balholm
Lost With Crew

LONDON, Dec. 14 (AP)—A Lloyd's dispatch from Reykjavik, Iceland, says the Norwegian steamer Balholm has been totally wrecked at Akraf, Faxa bay, and the crew and passengers drowned. No details are given.

THE WEATHER

OREGON: Fair tonight with zero temperature in the east portion. Wednesday fair, except unsettled in the northwest portion.

BITTER COLD
SWEEPS INTO
EAST TODAYSub-Zero Wave Spreads
over Nation—Blizzards
Add to DiscomfortMEACHAM REPORTS
32 DEGREES BELOWLa Grande Registers 12,
Enterprise 27 Below—
Death Toll Mounts to
Nearly a Score.

SUB-ZERO WEATHER
Meacham, Ore.—33 below.
Enterprise—27 below.
La Grande—12 below.
12 below near Klamath Falls.
Montana, Wyoming, Colorado from 10 to 30 below.
Chicago, 3 below, suffers intensely.
Pendleton—12 below.
California turns to snafu pots.
Death toll over nation nears a score.
Blizzards handicap air mail.

CHICAGO, Dec. 14 (AP)—Blizzards winter swept in from the eastern half of the country today from western states struggling in the grip of zero weather and deep drifted snows. Swirling winds here the cold wave across the Mississippi Valley and along the Gulf coast. Normal life came to a virtual standstill in the northwest, and down into the central states trains were running behind, schools were closed and crippled communications told of a mounting death toll. Blizzards and winds of near zero velocity played havoc with the air mail.

10 to 30 Below Zero
Extreme temperatures handicapped efforts to loose the hold of the heavy snows, and the weather bureau predicted little relief for at least two more days. In Montana, Wyoming and Colorado the mercury dropped from 10 to 30 below, the southwest shivered in below freezing weather and the temperatures hovered above zero on midwest thermometers.

California reported cold but no severe weather; snafu pots were mounted about the fruit groves, and motorcycle riders watched the thermometer, ready to ride with a warning when the mercury approached the danger point. Ranchers in the plains states were warned to protect their livestock from the weather.

In western Wisconsin several towns were dark last night through inability to repair broken electric power lines, and water supplies, pumped by electricity were in grave danger.

Chicago Suffers
There was much suffering in the big cities. At Chicago where an unofficial reading at 1 a. m. was three degrees below zero, half a hundred families were driven to the streets by fire, most of which were attributed to overheated furnaces and stoves.

Eight persons were dead in the wake of the northwest's storm, four deaths were counted in the plain states and two men were frozen to death in the heart of the corn belt.

Snow Fall Heavy
Throughout the entire western portion of the U. S. the snow fall was unseasonably extensive, both as to depth as much as ten feet in some places and as to area covered. In western Canada the blizzard which began Sunday night was called the first since 1907, and Alaska were alarmed for the safety of residents of the Aleutian islands, where even the three radio stations have not been heard from since the blizzard began.

32 BELOW AT MEACHAM
Early reports indicated that Meacham, mid-way between La Grande and Pendleton, was one of the coldest spots in the northwest last night, where the mercury dropped to 32 below, according to unofficial reports. Enterprise reported 27 below and La Grande's record was 12 below. Sub-zero weather is general over Oregon today.

The maximum in La Grande yesterday was 11 above, after which a 23-point slump during the night thrust the mercury to within three degrees of the minimum of 1923-25 winter. At 3:30 o'clock this morning the reading was 19 below.

The intense cold here, although tempered by sunshine today and absence of wind, resulted in freezing of several water pipes, and in one instance, a small fire the result of thawing-out attempts. At 7:45 o'clock the fire truck was called to 1118 Washington where chemicals were used to extinguish a fire in the William Kennedy place.

10 BELOW NEAR KLAMATH
KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Dec. 14 (AP)—Coldest spot in this section (Continued on Page Five)