

CITY
EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER
OREGON: Unsettled tonight and
Tuesday; probably occasional rains
in the west portion. Not much
change in temperature.

VOLUME XXV.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

LA GRANDE, OREGON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1926.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBER 138

NEARLY 2,000
TREATED BY
ELKS' SANTAKiddies of La Grande At-
tend Lodge's Annual
Christmas PartyPROVISIONS GIVEN
TO 80 FAMILIESChurches and Salvation
Army Feature Pro-
grams—City Is Happy
over Week End.Nearly 2,000 children of La
Grande were made happy Christ-
mas day by the local lodge of Elks,
when it held its annual Christmas
party, for which money made from
the "to show" is expended.The tree was put up at the inter-
section of Depot street and Wash-
ington avenue last Sunday and on
Christmas day at 11 o'clock Santa
Claus arrived to greet the children
and distribute the 2,000 bags of
candy and nuts and the 2,000 toys,
which had been purchased.Hand Plays.
Because of the weather the elks
were given out in the Elks temple.
The municipal band played while
the toys were being given out by
Santa and his assistants.Previous to the Christmas tree at
9:45 o'clock the children were the
guests of Meyers and Rowen, at a
free motion picture show at the
Star theater, which was packed.
Two children occupying many of the
seats. An "Our Gang" comedy, a
western film and a Grinnell Rice
short light reel were the pictures
shown. The show lasted for about
an hour giving the children plenty
of time to get to the Elks' tree by
11 o'clock.Nearly Assisted.
Besides treating nearly 2,000
children the Elks helped about 80
needy families of the community,
by sending out baskets of provisions
for Christmas. The Salvation
Army, the Associated Old students
of the high school, various churches
and other organizations also sent
Christmas boxes to the needy.Christmas programs, with a
Christmas tree and Santa Claus,
were held in most of the churches
of the city on Christmas eve, the
Sunday schools furnishing the pro-
gram.Midnight mass was held at the
Catholic church, with two mass
meetings on Christmas morning,
one at 8 o'clock and one at 8:30.Celebrate in Homes.
During the afternoon and evening
most of the homes of the city
were celebrating the yuletide. At
several homes a number of families
gathered for dinner and at others
the entire family was present, all
enjoying a merry Christmas.12 INCHES OF
SNOW FALLS IN
3-DAY PERIODAt least seven inches of snow
fell in La Grande during the past
three days, giving this city a plen-
tiful white blanket for the Christ-
mas holidays. Little wind was in
evidence over the week end al-
though the mercury slipped to 17
above Saturday night and fell one
degree lower last night.State highways in this district
are reported to be open although
the roads between La Grande and
Pendleton and La Grande and Joseph
are said to be difficult to
travel. A stage, leaving Pendleton
at 7 a. m. Christmas day, did not
arrive here until late in the after-
noon. Between La Grande and Ba-
ker the road is easier to drive
over.

FAMOUS PACKER DIES

SEATTLE, Dec. 27. (AP)—Frederick
Charles Johnston, of Seattle,
who in 1911 converted the Scotty
of the Seas, a clipper built in 1859,
into the world's first floating can-
nery, died here today.GOOD
ADVERTISING
MONEYThis is a week of inventories
and not a few business men will
"take stock" of their advertising
and plan the expenditure for the
coming year.The intelligent merchant
makes a definite advertising ap-
propriation the expenditure of
which will keep you informed
about the advantages of doing
business with him. In 1927,
more than ever, he is going to
eliminate freak and unknown
methods propounded by smooth-
talking salesmen. He will ana-
lyze his publicity problem—and
concentrate all or a majority of
his money in The Observer
where the reader-interest is
highest, the reader-cost the low-
est."Observer Advertising—
A Merchandising Service"Sacred Cantata
Is Presented at
Methodist ChurchNine Hundred Persons
Hear "The Light Eter-
nal" Given by the Com-
munity Chorus.Most of the churches of the city
attended music service last evening
at the First Methodist Episcopal
church, when a Christmas cantata,
"The Light Eternal" by H. W.
Petrie, was given by the com-
munity chorus, which is sponsored
by the Monday Musical club and is
under the direction of W. W. Nus-
baum.The cantata was probably the
most outstanding musical program
of its kind, in which the entire
community has participated for
several years. About 900 people
attended.The piece itself is melodious and
it gave the musicians an oppor-
tunity to display their talents. Tone
qualities and shadings were ex-
cellent, not only in the chorus and
duet work, but in the chorus,
which was well balanced.The chorus is composed of about
50 voices, and last night was its
first appearance before the public
since its organization under the
direction of W. W. Nusbaum, spon-
sored by the Monday musical.
The Rev. H. W. Parker, pastor
of the M. E. church presided over
the program and the opening num-
ber was "Praise the Great Re-
deemer" by the chorus. G. L. Dut-
ton, Paul Knautz and the chorus
gave "He Speaks to the World,"
and Mrs. C. S. Moore and Elwood
Gwilliams, accompanied by the
chorus sang "While Shepherds
Watched."Solo Numbers.
Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood Williams
and Paul Knautz sang "Star of
Bethlehem," assisted by the chorus
and Miss Mildred Lovett, sang a
contralto solo, "At Dawning." "He
Came to Give Salvation" was given
by Sherwood Williams and the
chorus and Mrs. C. S. Moore sang
"Born in a Manger," accompanied
by the chorus. Richard Dykhus
sang "The Light of Glory." A duet
number "The Message" was given
by J. T. Longfellow and Earl Stod-
dard; G. L. Dutton sang "The Light
of All the World," accompanied by
the chorus; Mrs. Leo Miller sang
"Angel Voices," a soprano solo and
Mrs. Moore, Mr. Dykhus, Miss
Lovett and Mr. Knautz sang a
duet number "Lead Me."Several of the churches had
Christmas music during their
morning services. At the First
Presbyterian church, where the
Rev. J. A. Smith spoke, using as
his subject "The Greatest Christ-
mas Gift," several solos were given.
Raymond Williams sang "Star of
the East," G. L. Dutton and Miss
Adelaide Ruth Clark sang.
Christmas programs were held
at the First M. E. church, at the
Christian church and others. There
was also a special Christmas ser-
vice at the Salvation Army hall last
night at eight o'clock when Envo-
y Barker gave an address on "The
Best Gift."Parker Speaks at
Rotary LuncheonIntroduced by Don Meyers who
was in charge of the program, the
Rev. H. W. Parker, of the First
M. E. church, spoke at the regular
Monday noon luncheon of the Ro-
tary club today, emphasizing the
opportunity Rotarians have for
service as well as for fellowship.
Mr. Parker, although not a mem-
ber of the local organization, was
formerly president of the Nampa,
Ida., Rotary club.

G. S. Bricke led in singing.

To Resume Forum
Luncheons Jan. 4As in previous years there will
be no regular forum luncheon of
the Union county chamber of
commerce this week, the reason
being that everyone is busy tak-
ing inventory and closing the
year's business.The next regular luncheon will
be next Tuesday, Jan. 4.Woman Starts Air
Trip 12,000 MilesLONDON, Dec. 27. (AP)—Car-
rying only one small suit, case
containing 20 pounds of clothes
and toilet articles, Lady Maud
Hearse climbed into a large pas-
senger airplane at Croydon this
morning and with her husband,
Sir Samuel Hearse, British air mi-
nister, sailed off on a 12,000-mile
journey to India and return. Her
trip is the longest flight ever un-
dertaken by a woman and is an
epoch-making one for British civil
aviation.The air minister will inaugu-
rate a new Cairo-Karachi service
and will visit scattered British air
posts on the northern frontiers of
India.For days Lady Hearse will fly
over territory that never before
has been visited by a white wom-
an. She intends to make her suit-
case wardrobe serve her needs in
all climates, but has sent cer-
emonial clothes in advance for a
great fête which will be held at
Delhi.

MIKADO, HEIR

Yoshihito, mikado of Japan
(above), died Christmas day.
His son, Hirohito, prince regent (below),
succeeded him to the throne.POLICE ACTIVE
CHRISTMAS DAYTwelve Men Arrested;
Charges Vary From
Cards to "Moon"The police department was un-
usually busy Christmas day, ar-
resting 12 men who are accused of
violations of city ordinances. Al-
though the traffic ordinance be-
came effective the day before
Christmas, no trouble has been had
as yet and it is said that motorists
are generally observing its rulings.
Joe Thomas and L. O. Garrett
are both charged with possession
of liquor. Thomas was released
upon placing bonds in the amount
of \$150 and Garrett is in jail.Dan Anderson, Steve Goulson,
Nick Amos, Tony Thorne, Frank
Diano and J. A. Kefauver were ar-
rested on a charge of gambling.
They were playing cards for money
in a private room in a local room-
ing house, the police charge. All
but Anderson furnished \$10 bonds.
He is in jail.Four others were arrested on a
charge of fighting although police
may accuse them of drunkenness.
It was indicated today. They are
Fred Wirth, E. W. Tedding, George
Simmons and C. W. Hines.All 12 men are scheduled to be
tried in the municipal court this
evening before Judge C. M. Hamp-
treys.

PIONEER DIES

PENDLETON, Dec. 27. (AP)—
Mrs. Neva Withers, Pendleton pi-
oneer since 1883 died here Sunday
night after a lingering illness.

Body of Emperor Taken to Tokyo;

Thousands View Passing Procession

TOKYO, Dec. 27. (AP)—Sifted
and barreled, more than a mil-
lion mourners lined the four mile
route from Harajuku station to the
imperial palace, as the body of the
late Emperor Yoshihito was re-
turned to Tokyo this evening from
the royal villa at Hayama where
he died on Christmas day.From railroad station to palace
the streets were sprinkled with
white sand as a ceremony of puri-
fication. On either side the way
was fringed with soldiers and poli-
cemen—15,000 of them.

Hirohito in Lead

The cortege was preceded into
the capital by the new emperor,
Hirohito and the new empress. The
body, escorted by officers of the
imperial guard, headed the cortege
proper and Sadako, the dowager
princess, followed shortly in a
carriage. Then came troops of
cavalry, princes and princesses of
the imperial family, court ladies,
chamberlains, the household minis-
ters, the lord steward and more im-
perial guards—a spectacle as im-
pressive as it was solemn.Emperor Hirohito, and his con-
sort arrived during the afternoonOIL DISTRICT
EXPLOSION IS
FATAL TO SIXSeven Others Seriously
Burned, Five of Whom
Likely to DieOTHER TANKS IN
FIELD THREATENEDFire Near Ventura, Cal.,
Brought Under Control
After Raging for Two
Hours.VENTURA, Cal., Dec. 27. (AP)—
Six men are missing, seven
others are seriously injured, five
of whom probably will die, and
damage estimated at \$250,000 was
done in the destruction by explo-
sion and fire of the General Petrol-
eum company's refinery two and a
half miles east of here today. The
fire, which broke out after an ex-
plosion in the absorption pit, and
for a time threatened to surge
through the congested oil field
area, was brought under control
two hours later.The seven injured who were re-
moved to a hospital here with
their clothing torn or burned from
their bodies were:T. J. Barrett, W. London, J. F.
Borrey, T. L. Kimes, P. R. Dimock,
Sam Ingram and George McGowan.

Heat Intense

The heat from the burned pit
was so intense that rescue crews
were unable to make a search for
other possible victims. Oil officials
said it probably would be several
hours before it was definitely de-
termined whether any of the 42
workmen who were supposed to
have been employed in the refinery
at the time were killed outright.Charles Chaplin
Seeking Divorce
Newspaper SaysNOGALLES, Ariz., Dec. 27. (AP)—
The Herald says this afternoon
that a "prominent attorney of Her-
mosillo, capital of the state of So-
nora, Mexico, says he has been in
communication with Charlie Chap-
lin, motion picture comedian, re-
lative to obtaining a divorce under
the Mexican laws." The Chaplins
were married in Mexico.The newspaper says that the at-
torney will not allow his name to
be used in connection with the case.
Chaplin, the newspaper says, first
wrote the Hermosillo attorney
"shortly after his marital breach
with Lita Grey."Grand Jury Fails
To Return BillsINDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 27.
(AP)—A grand jury which has
been investigating charges of po-
litical corruption in Indiana re-
ported today that it found no evi-
dence for indictments against any
state or municipal officers. The
investigation has been under way
since October.Hassel Refuses
To Make StatementFAIRWELL, Tex., Dec. 27. (AP)—
George J. Hassel, whose wife
and her eight children were found
last Friday in a dugout on his
farm near here, declined today to
make the detailed statement of
factors said he promised yesterday.Suffering from self-inflicted
knife wounds, Hassel was re-
moved from the hospital to a jail
cell, with a deputy sheriff on guard.Ormiston Hearing
Set for January 6LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 27.
(AP)—Kenneth G. Ormiston, un-
der indictment in the McPherson
conspiracy case, was granted a
continuance until Jan. 6, when he
was brought into superior court
here today to be arraigned on
charges of conspiracy to defeat
justice. Ormiston acted as his own
counsel, explaining to the court
that he had been unable to close
negotiations for an attorney to re-
present him.Only a small crowd, mostly wo-
men, gathered to see the former
Angelus Temple radio operator
whose unexpected arrival here Dec.
17, created the most recent sen-
sation in the disappearance case of
Alma Temple McPherson, evan-
gelist.Roadster Crashes
And Driver DiesPORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 27. (AP)—
When an expensive roadster
which he was driving crashed
head-on into a railroad streetcar
yesterday at East Eleventh and
Sherman streets, Harold Beck, 25,
of Yakima, Wash., was injured
fatally. He died on the way to a
hospital.Neutral Zone Is
Established by
American ForceBluejackets Landed at
Puerto Cabezas to
Guard Against Nic-
araguan Outbursts.WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. (AP)—
Rear Admiral Latimer, who landed
American blue jackets at Puerto
Cabezas, Nicaragua, and pro-
claimed a neutral zone last week,
advised the state department to-
day that he had notified Nicaraguan
government forces, recently
defeated by liberal troops, that
they would be observed if they
were forced into the Bluefields
neutral zone.WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. (AP)—
Aside from the report of Rear Ad-
miral Latimer that he had
landed a force of bluejackets at
Puerto Cabezas and had proclaimed
a neutral zone there, widely re-
flected in five southern states in
the shot of all American properties,
Washington officials were without
information over the week end as
to developments in the Nicaraguan
situation.Puerto Cabezas, near the Hon-
duran border, was the headquarters
of the Sacaas liberals who are op-
posing the conservative government
of President Diaz which has been
recognized by the United States.
This landing of American forces
there and at Rio Grande bar had
been vehemently protested by the
representatives of the liberal group,
which has been recognized by Mex-
ico as the official national govern-
ment of Nicaragua.Nashville, Tenn., with more than
40 blocks inundated and 2,500 peo-
ple driven from their homes, was
probably the most severely hit
point in the area affected by the
floods.

Four Known Dead

Four were known dead as a
result of the swollen rivers and
others directly from automobile
accidents. At Pine Bluff, Ark.,
two men were drowned when
their car turned over in a small
stream. A similar accident cost
a Columbus, Miss., man his life.Exposure from wading in a creek
was the cause of a fourth death,
a man from Selma, Tenn.
More than 50 blocks in Nash-
ville were inundated by the back-
water from the Cumberland river,
which runs S-shaped through the
city. The crest of the flood is
expected to be reached tomorrow,
barring further rains in the head-
lands. Estimates of the probable
number of people who would be
driven from their homes, should
the river attain the expected 53
feet, increased to 4000, while
buildings which would be flooded
would pass the 1000 mark.Swollen streams in Mississippi
(Continued on Page Five)Wilkins To Again
Fly Toward PoleDETROIT, Dec. 27. (AP)—To
pick up his arctic exploration work
where he left off last spring Cap-
tain George H. Wilkins plans to
leave Seattle for the north on Feb.
6. Two airplanes, the Alaskan and
the Detroit, are stored at Fair-
banks and Captain Wilkins plans to
place the wings of the Detroit on
the fuselage of the Alaskan and
then fly from Fairbanks to Point
Barrow. At the latter point 3,500
gallons of gasoline has been stored
in preparation for the flight to-
ward the north pole.Drumheller Wheat
Crop Is PurchasedPENDLETON, Dec. 27. (AP)—
The George Drumheller wheat crop,
reported to be the largest single
crop in the state of Washington,
was purchased by the Collins
Flouring mills of this city. It was
reported here today. The crop,
estimated at 125,000 bushels, is a
continuation until Jan. 6, when
the number of people who would be
driven from their homes, should
the river attain the expected 53
feet, increased to 4000, while
buildings which would be flooded
would pass the 1000 mark.Collins, who is one of the leading
authorities on wheat in the north-
west, states that between 25 and
35 per cent of the northwest wheat
is still in the hands of the grow-
ers. Indications also point to a
larger seedling of federation wheat
than ever before, according to Col-
lins.Ormiston Hearing
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hospital.2,500 DRIVEN
FROM HOMES
IN NASHVILLEFour Southern States in
Watery Grip—Rains
Are ForecastFOUR KNOWN DEAD;
PROPERTY DAMAGEDCrest of Floods Is Ex-
pected to Be Reached
Tomorrow — 53-Foot
River Level Feared.NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 27.
(AP)—Rivers that reached out of
their banks and grasped valley
dwellers in five southern states in
their icy grip, today were promised
still further power, for the weather
forecast was for more rain today
and tonight in all of them.MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 27. (AP)—
With thousands already driven
from their homes by floods and
property damage estimated in the
hundreds of thousands of dollars,
Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi
and Kentucky today were prepar-
ing to meet an even greater
emergency. General rains were
forecast.Nashville, Tenn., with more than
40 blocks inundated and 2,500 peo-
ple driven from their homes, was
probably the most severely hit
point in the area affected by the
floods.

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yesterday at East Eleventh and
Sherman streets, Harold Beck, 25,
of Yakima, Wash., was injured
fatally. He died on the way to a
hospital.Rotten Liquor,
Heavy Drinking
Causes DeathsSeventy-Three in New
York Hospital, Death
Toll Is 11, Three Less
Than Last Xmas.NEW YORK, Dec. 27. (AP)—
Poison Christmas liquor and ex-
cessive drinking today had earned
a toll here of 11 deaths, three
less than last year, and 73 persons
went to hospitals for alcoholism,
more than for 1924 and 1925 to-
gether.Eight of the deaths were in Man-
hattan and three in Brooklyn. Im-
properly redistilled alcohol was
largely responsible, in the opinion
of Dr. Charles Norris, chief medi-
cal examiner. Dr. Thomas A. Gon-
zales, assistant medical examiner,
said, however, that autopsies of
seven of the dead indicated ex-
cessed in drinking rather than the poisonous
elements was responsible.Bootleggers Rushed.
Dr. Norris said bootleggers were
so rushed that in redistilling liquor
known to contain poisonous sub-
stances they would not take time
to remove sufficient poison.Of 65 cases of alcoholism re-
ported by Bellevue hospital, only
15 were considered serious and at-
tendants said all probably would
recover. Twenty of the 65 were re-
leased after treatment. Included in
those admitted were eight women.Only one victim of bad liquor
was reported in Chicago over the
week end, but Dr. Herman Bunde-
son, city health commissioner there,
estimated that "poison" costing up-
wards of \$10,000,000 was distrib-
uted in that city as gifts. Probably
not more than eight per cent of
this liquor was genuine, he said,
and advised that "if you must
drink, first take the liquor to a
chemist."In Poughkeepsie, N. Y., a rail-
road workman, died from drink-
ing home made liquor.

2 DIE IN DES MOINES

DES MOINES, Iowa, Dec. 27.
(AP)—Sherman Dougherty, 38,
whose 39 day sentence for inter-
diction had been commuted Christ-
mas eve so that he might enjoy
freedom over the holiday, died yester-
day after drinking poison liquor.
E. G. Pearson was another victim
of poison Xmas liquor. Coroner
Guy Chitt announced after investi-
gating both cases.Gas Claims Five
Victims Near and
In Los AngelesLOS ANGELES, Dec. 27. (AP)—
Five persons were asphyxiated last
night and early today in Los An-
geles and vicinity.Mrs. Lucille Whiteman, 35, and
her two children, Florence, 8, and
Margaret, 5, were found dead from
gas fumes when the owner of the
house in which they lived saw the
lights burning today and investi-
gated. The bodies of the children
were in their beds while the moth-
er was found in a position indicat-
ing she had attempted to reach
them before she was overcome.Alan Gibson, 15, of Long Beach,
was found dead in a bath tub, over-
come from the fumes of a gas stove.Howard D. Clapp, 66, of Cudahy,
died in his chair, the rocker of
which apparently disconnected a
gas tube.

Seen Good Auto Year

Alfred P. Sloan Jr., president of
General Motors corporation, says
it now seems reasonable to expect
that the 1927 production of auto-
mobiles will equal if it does not
exceed the previous four year aver-