

# LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)

An Independent Newspaper

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Published evenings, except Sunday, at 1416 Adams Avenue, La Grande, Oregon. The Observer-Star published every Friday. Entered at the Postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, as Second Class Mail Matter under act of March 3, 1879.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF UNION COUNTY AND THE CITY OF LA GRANDE

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

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By Carrier  
Daily, per month in advance 75c  
Daily, per six months in advance \$4.50  
Daily, single copy 5c

By Mail

Daily, per month in advance 50c  
Daily, per six months in advance \$2.50  
Daily, per year in advance \$5.00  
Weekly Observer-Star, per year \$2.00

ADVERTISING RATES

Display, foreign, per column inch 47c  
Display, local, per column inch 40c  
Time contract rates on application.



SEEK THE LORD—"The Lord is with you, while ye be with Him, and if ye seek Him, He will be found of you: But if ye forsake Him, He will forsake you." 2 Chron. 15:2.

## EXAMINE BOTTLE FOR DRUG TRACE

### "Missing Link" in Evidence Against Dentist Thought Found

SEATTLE, Jan. 27 (AP)—Believed by authorities to fill in a possible "missing link" in the chain of evidence by which they expect to fasten the slaying of Letitia Whitehill, 14-year-old Kirkland high school girl, on Dr. C. C. Dobbs her dentist, a bottle found in his office was under close scrutiny today.

Traces of a powder in the container, which is said to be similar to the type used for shipment of poisonous drugs were analyzed by William M. Dehn, University of Washington chemist. Although the results of the analysis were not officially made public, it was understood to have shown that the commercial form of a well known narcotic drug had been kept in the bottle which is said to have borne the usual government narcotic drug stamp.

The girl's body, bearing evidence of a struggle was found in a rough north of Kirkland which is across lake Washington from Seattle Nov. 14, two weeks after she disappeared following a visit to Dobbs' dental office.

Dobbs who is in the county jail here charged with first degree murder has launched a legal fight to obtain his release on bail and a hearing has been set for Friday.

## WILLAMETTE MALE QUARTET COMING



Members of the Willamette university male quartet which will appear here in the M. E. church Feb. 1. Ronald Craven is first tenor; William Wright, second tenor; Willis Hathaway, baritone and Walter Kaufman, bass.

## Grants Pass Boy Taken in Eugene

EUGENE, Ore., Jan. 27 (AP)—Walter M. Sweetland, 15, of Grants Pass was taken into custody here today charged with stealing a ride and is awaiting word from police officials at Grants Pass.

Sweetland, officers alleged confessed to entering Waldroff pool hall at Grants Pass some two

## Dog Teams Take Mail 600 Miles in New England

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 27 (AP)—The two first dog teams ever to carry mail in New England are approaching Albany and the end of a 600 mile journey with a load of letters to Governor Smith from Governor Brewster of Maine and other New England executives.

The teams left Minot, Me., Jan. 10 with the expectation of reaching here Feb. 10. The drivers, wearing heavy fur coats, and the dozen Eskimo dogs have suffered some from the heat, as the mercury has been above zero most of the trip.

The drivers are Postmaster A. W. Patterson of Minot, and E. W. Clark of Milan, N. H. The party has rested in roadside groves at night, the men in sleeping bags. The teams stopped in New England capitals en route to deliver and receive mail.

Clark, a trader and dog driver, brought the teams from Baffin Land.

PORTLAND PRIZE WINNER  
PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 27 (AP)—Portland has been awarded first prize for exceeding all other cities of the country with 300,000 or more population in 1926 national apple week activities by the International Apple Shippers' association with headquarters in Rochester, N. Y. This was announced in a telegram received today by the chamber of commerce from R. G. Phillips, secretary of the association.

## LATEST INDOOR AND BEACH PASTIME



Miss Martha Stranz, San Diego, illustrates the latest California indoor and beach pastime—hook rugs—which, when completed, are good as door or bath mats or even wall ornaments.

## NORRIS MURDER TRIAL OPENS



This picture shows the opening session of the trial of the Rev. J. Frank Norris, noted Fort Worth evangelist, for the murder of D. E. Chipps, Fort Worth lumberman. Rev. Norris shot Chipps in the study of his church. The arrow indicates Rev. Norris, surrounded by his attorneys. The trial was held at Austin, Tex. Norris was acquitted.



DURING THE CHRISTMAS VACATION, THE "TOPPERS" at Eton College, England, are sent out for repairs. The hats form a picturesque part of the famous Eton uniforms.

**N.K. West & Co., Inc.**  
La Grande's Leading Store  
for Over 25 Years  
Quality Merchandise

## W.C.T.U. Program Is Adopted at National Meet

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (AP)—Strict personal observance of the prohibition law by all government officials, governors of state, and public servants who have sworn loyalty to the constitution was demanded in the platform adopted today by the mid-winter conference of the National Women's Christian Temperance Union.

The platform also calls for increased penalties for violation of the prohibition law and demands that bootleggers be held responsible for sickness or death resulting from sale of poisonous or contraband liquor.

Suppression of the manufacture and sale of hip flasks as well as other and ingredients employed in the making of drinks was asked on the ground such practices were in violation of the law.

**Supports Volstead Act**  
The platform designated prohibition as the best method of dealing with the liquor question and made a broad appeal for cooperation by citizens, newspapers, magazine writers, public entertainers and society leaders. Disregard of the constitution it said should be looked upon as bad form.

Prohibition has added \$6,000,000 to the nation's wealth, and has made for better homes, better schools, greater efficiency and productivity of the American working men as compared with those of other nations of the world, the platform asserted.

**COOLIDGE GETS BILL**  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (AP)—Secretary Davis transmitted today to President Coolidge without recommendation the bill authorizing construction of a bridge across the Columbia river at Longview, Wash.

**"General Gasoline"**  
"Keeps the motors humming"  
General Petroleum Corporation of California

**La Grande Electric Co.**  
"Everything Electrical"

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Age 2 to 10  
At Reduced Prices  
Stamped Ready Made ROMPERS At 49c  
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**Claude C. Pratt Lumber Co.**  
"The Poor Man's Friend"  
Near Postoffice. Phone Main 24  
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## Return Prisoners To Josephine Jail

GRANTS PASS, Ore., Jan. 27 (AP)—Claude Hart and George Williams, who last Saturday escaped from the Josephine county jail for the second time within a month, were this morning safe behind the steel bars of their cells. The two became lost in the lower river country and fell easy victims of the officers who trailed them. The officers returned with their prisoners last night, having picked them up in a deserted cabin two miles below Whiskey creek on the lower Rogue, about 25 miles from Grants Pass.

Hart and Williams escaped Saturday by locking Sheriff W. M. Hayes within the jail. They struck out westward and immediately became lost. They made their way down the river stopping at farms for meals and their movements were reported to the sheriff who sent two officers for them. When arrested the pair were heavily armed. They are serving out a 60-day sentence for theft.

## MORE INTELLIGENT INITIATIVE

With the experience of the November election fresh in the minds of voters and legislators (when nineteen measures were voted on by the people of Oregon), two bills introduced in the house of representatives at Salem will be interesting to citizens who deplore the ease with which initiative measures are put on our ballots by any individual or interest possessing enough funds to hire expert petition circulators. Both bills are designed to curb this generally recognized evil.

House Bill 104 introduced by Norvell is by far the better of the two, although a higher percentage of signers than the five per cent specified would seem to be desirable. Briefly, it provides that the bill to be initiated shall be filed with the county clerk where registered voters may sign the petition, that full publicity shall be given the proposed measure in each county, and that "no person, firm, or corporation shall pay or receive any compensation or other thing of value for procuring signatures" with a penalty of a fine or imprisonment or both for violation.

In other words, the bill assumes that initiative measures shall and should be of such concern to the people of Oregon that petitions for them will be signed voluntarily by a sufficient percentage of voters to assure its place on the ballot if it possesses merit. It assumes that any measure vitally beneficial to the people of the state does not require paid petition circulators, and that any measure requiring such paid sponsoring is likely to be dangerous and designed for the benefit of special interests.

The points are well taken. We have too many measures on our election ballots. Freak measures are too easily put in the public favor through lavish expenditure of campaign money. Our constitution is too easily amended by a mere majority vote.

The bill described here will not in any way jeopardize the initiative or referendum power. Rather it will strengthen that power in the hands of the great mass of voters. It will remove an advantage from special groups who are willing to spend large sums to secure special legislation. And it will be an effective law because it provides sufficient penalty.

H. B. 104 deserves the attention and support of intelligent people seeking to safeguard public welfare. It is commended to the Eastern Oregon delegation in th legislature and should have each member's backing.



SHE WILL BE QUEEN of the winter sports carnival at Hauff, Alberta, Canada. She is Miss Mary Cross of Calgary, a niece of Colonel James McLeod of the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, who founded McLeod, Alberta, in 1874.

NEW! Los Angeles Bureau BOMB-TOO! RUN FELLERS! Marine Sawyer of Los Angeles is shown holding the tear-gas bomb which is the newest protection to be devised against flirts and thugs.

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