

FOLEY TRACT
IMPROVEMENT
PETITIONEDTwo Projects Presented
to City Commission
Last NightEAST SIDE WORK
ALSO ASKED FORAuditing of City's Books
and Records Completed
—Everything Found in
Perfect Order.

Action on several improvement districts, one of which while part of further development in the city, addition to the city—near head of Spring street, took place at the meeting of the city commission in the municipal building last night.

Two petitions were presented last night for improvements, one for a sanitary sewer and the other for macadam streets, curbs and sidewalks.

The first provided for about 250 feet of sewer and the second for improving of Spring from Alder to the city limits, where it would probably connect with similar improvements planned for the Foley addition.

To Build Residences
Jerome Foley was present and explained that several residence buildings will be erected there in the near future.

Both petitions were referred to the city manager and city engineer.

Other petitions received included one from property owners on E from Fourth to Seventh, asking the city to open and grade this street. The request was granted.

A petition for improvement of North Cherry from Cove to the O-W main line by grading, installing storm sewers, installing sidewalks, and macadamizing the street and for sidewalks, and sanitary sewers along parts of O and Cove avenues, was presented. This, too, was referred to the city manager.

Hearing Held
A hearing was held on district 14, including Box Elder street. No remonstrances were received and the recorder was authorized to advertise for bids to be received May 1.

Drinking License
A license for the purpose to cover a stand in Legion hall. An offer of \$215 for lot 12, block 1, corner of 1st and 2nd streets, was discussed and laid on the table.

City Books Ok'd
Lybrand, Ross Bros. and Montgomery, of Spokane, reported on the auditing of the city books. The report showed everything in excellent shape. The report declared that the city records were kept in an efficient and business manner.

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LA GRANDE
PEOPLE ATTEND
ROTARY MEET

Members of the La Grande Rotary club who have been attending the northwest convention at Tacoma, Wash., are returning home with reports of a very successful meeting.

This city was represented by a total of 14 persons at the sessions, including the La Grande quartet, consisting of G. L. Dutton, Elmer Stoddard, Sherwood Williams and G. S. Birnie. Mrs. Stoddard and Mrs. Birnie accompanied the singers.

Others who attended were: F. L. Myers, Auditor; A. T. Hill, Dr. and Mrs. W. T. Play and A. C. Hill. Mr. Hill returned yesterday and Mr. Myers and Mr. Play are driving home today.

AGGRESSIVE
BOTH
WAYS

When you stop to consider the business firms that are aggressive, up-to-the-minute in their methods, goods, and service, you find that most of them are aggressive and constant advertisers.

The very fact that they value your trade and favor enough to keep constant contact with you through advertising messages in The Observer indicates the outstanding ability of these firms to satisfy you when you spend your money. An aggressive advertiser usually means an aggressive business man—and an aggressive business man means the best merchandise, the best values, and the best service that he knows how to provide. He knows that permanent business success is built only with satisfied customers.

"Observer Advertising—A Merchandising Service"

Large Crowd On
Hand To Greet
Dairy SpecialArrives Here at 1:45
O'clock This Afternoon
from Pendleton—Goes
to Elgin This Eve.

The Union Pacific-Oregon Agricultural college dairy demonstration special arrived in La Grande this afternoon at 1:45 o'clock—it's scheduled to leave at 2 o'clock. A large crowd assembled at the O-W depot to greet the train.

The speaking program was scheduled to begin at two o'clock. H. E. Coolidge, president of the Union county chamber of commerce, was to give the opening address.

Goes to Elgin Next
The train left Portland the first of this week and up to today noon the number of persons seeing the train was over the 4,000 mark. Its stay in La Grande this afternoon and two hours at Elgin this evening will probably bring the number up considerably.

The train consists of seven cars, including a display car with charts, etc., a car of dairy cattle, a car for demonstration and showing cattle, a car of hogs and a storage car with literature.

In the car of hogs a talking hog is creating considerable interest. It's name is Sal and she is ready to answer any questions asked her. When asked about the feasibility of raising hogs here she answered conditions couldn't be better, explaining that the number of hogs raised in Oregon does not nearly fill the demand.

Train's Personnel
The personnel with the train includes several people of interest. The Union Pacific is represented by C. C. Gignoux, assistant supervisor of agriculture; Dan E. Clark, live-

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Boys' and Girls'
Mass Games To
Be Held Friday

Friday, May 6 will be a big day for the boys and girls of La Grande. J. T. Longfellow, superintendent of schools, and chairman of the special events of Friday for boys' week, has announced the features of that day. Events will center about the second annual field day and mass games in which some 1,800 or 1,900 school children will participate. The grammar schools have been drilling diligently for the many events in the field day, which will be a banner feature of the week, for which interesting programs have been prepared under sponsorship of the Rotary club, the chamber of commerce and other organizations.

At 1 o'clock sharp, boys and girls of all grammar schools will form at Adams and Greenwood and parade the business streets preparatory to marching to the athletic field. At 2 o'clock the mass games begin and to this event, like games between parents and friends are urged to attend. There will be no charges.

To Re-Show Films
In this same connection it will be of interest to participants in last year's mass games to know that the moving picture films taken at that time, will be re-run prior to that time. The Arcade will show the films tonight, the Star show them Saturday night and again on Tuesday they will be seen at the Arcade.

Parents and friends of school children can rest assured that the mass games will be interesting and we are especially appealing to them to be present," explained Mr. Longfellow today in announcing the Friday program.

Sunday is boys' day in La Grande and definite details will be announced Saturday by the Rev. H. K. Wallis, pastor of the community church at Island City, who has charge of that day's program as the opening of boys' week.

Mrs. Hartley Wins
Suit in Malheur

Mrs. Mrs. Hartley, formerly of La Grande, won her suit of two years standing in Malheur circuit court against the industrial accident commission of the state, according to work received here. The suit was handled by R. J. Kitchen. Mrs. Hartley died in Ontario in November, 1924 of injuries received in a truck accident near Nyssa, Ore. In October, 1924, Mrs. Hartley made a claim for compensation because of the death and the commission refused to allow it.

Stanton Lapham, 5,
Dies in Portland

PORTLAND, Ore., Apr. 28 (AP)—Stanton Lapham, 5-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Lapham, died at a hospital today when he was hit by an automobile last Sunday in front of his home.

The boy was riding a scooter at the time he was hit, and eye witnesses told police they could not blame the driver, Keith C. Bishop, for the mishap.

HOUSE BILL
72 TO GO ON
JUNE BALLOTOregon Supreme Court
Renders Oral Decision
in ControversyRULING SURPRISE
TO APPELLANTSPeremptory Writ Will Be
Issued from Higher
Court to Compel Vote
Preliminaries.

SALEM, Ore., Apr. 28 (AP)—House bill 72 of the 1927 legislature, which has become chapter 277 of the 1927 Oregon session laws, will be referred to the people by referendum. The state supreme court handed down a decision to that effect here this morning. The law has become famous by reason of the fact that under it the state tax commission authorized the printing of the "blue blank" questionnaire for use by county assessors in eliminating dishonest valuation reports by business houses. The tax commission later repudiated the questionnaire leaving it up to the individual assessors to use it or not as they saw fit.

This morning's decision was an oral one and will be followed tomorrow by one officially drawn up in writing, according to announcement made from the supreme court bench by George H. Burnett, chief justice. Under it peremptory writ of mandamus will be issued against Sam J. Koser, secretary of state, requiring him to place the law on the ballot at the coming spring election and allow the people to decide whether or not it shall become effective.

Decision Unprecedented
The surprise court decision this morning was given immediately following oral arguments by S. B. Smith, secretary of the Greater Oregon association of Portland, an organization said to have been formed by business interests for the purpose of defeating the legislative enactment, J. Bowerman and W. S. U'Ren, all Portland attorneys opposing the bill, and Willis Moore.

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ART EXHIBIT TO
BE HELD FRIDAYGrammar Schools Today
Preparing Rooms for
Display Purposes

School rooms in the four elementary schools of La Grande—Central, Greenwood, Riveria and Willow—are being arranged today preparatory to the annual art exhibit, which will take place tomorrow afternoon from 1 o'clock until 5 p. m. in all of the public grade schools. Parents and interested patrons of the community are urged to attend the exhibit, which will not be a selected exhibit of outstanding work, but will include some of the work of each child in the school.

Mrs. L. L. Douglas is art and penmanship supervisor in the public schools system here and it is under her direction that the exhibit has been arranged, through the help of the teachers of the various school rooms.

Teachers and principals of the schools will be in their respective rooms to meet the parents and friends of the schools. At Central school the parent-teacher association will serve tea during the afternoon.

The high school work will not be exhibited at this time, the date of the exhibit to be announced later.

Annual Union County Track Meet
Will Be Held at Union Saturday

Second in importance in this part of Eastern Oregon only to the annual eastern Oregon classic, the annual county track and field meet will be held at Union Saturday afternoon with both high and grade school athletes competing.

From present indications several of the county records are slated to be broken—the pole vault, the javelin, the high jump, the half mile and possibly the broad jump. Lyman, present county record holder in the pole vault, has only to better 10 feet 3 inches to establish a new mark, and he is capable of doing around 11 feet.

Distance Marks
Davis has negotiated the half mile in better time than Bates' mark of 2:07 2-5. Anson is considered a chance to better Bates' mile record of 4:50 2-5 but will have to step to do it. Charlton has a chance to break Cresland's record in the javelin, which is only 143 feet 7 1/2 inches. In the high jump, Blacker also holds the record with a leap of 5 feet 3 1/2 inches. Lyman can do 5 feet 11 inches and should have

Final Argument
In Dobbs' Case
Is Nearing EndProsecution Asks Death
Penalty—Judge Mori-
arty's Instructions Per-
mit 4 Verdicts.

SEATTLE, Apr. 28 (AP)—Final argument by defense attorneys to free Dr. Chester C. Dobbs, Kirkland dentist, of the charges of murdering Letitia Whitehall a school girl patient, began in superior court here today with the prospect of the case being given the jury before night.

Lucas C. Kells, associate counsel for Dobbs, opened the defense summation to be followed on the stand by George H. Crandall, chief defense attorney. Their arguments would probably occupy the entire forenoon session, Crandall said, as court convened.

Prosecutor Edwin D. Colvin expected to take two hours to close the case for the state, the fate of Dr. Dobbs therefore being expected to be in the hands of the jury-men late this afternoon.

Expect Quick Verdict

Attorneys for both sides predicted that the jury would reach a verdict quickly. Four verdicts were open to the jury, as outlined in Judge Charles P. Moriarty's instructions: "Guilty of first degree murder with death penalty; guilty of first degree murder with life imprisonment; guilty of second degree murder, or a verdict of acquittal."

Ethan Allen Peyster, assistant prosecutor who added Prosecutor Colvin in convicting Wallace C. Gaines of the murder of his daughter, opened the final argument for the state late yesterday, calling upon the jurors to convict Dr. Dobbs and send him to the gallows.

Schissler, Party
Due Here Saturday

Capt. Paul J. Schissler, Professor Sam Dolan and Ed Alworth, alumni secretary, all of Oregon Agricultural college, are making a trip through the state in the interest of the college and will be in La Grande Saturday. While here they are to be guests of the local alumni and former students at a luncheon to be held in the Sommer hotel at 12 o'clock Saturday noon.

Capt. Schissler won the northwest championship last year and had one of the outstanding football teams in the west. Sam Dolan is a former Notre Dame tackle and was also coach at O. A. C. for three years. Ed Alworth is a former member of the O. A. C. football team and gained not on wide distinction in the world war.

All alumni and former students of the college are asked to call Earl Reynolds to make reservations for the luncheon.

Hi-Dads Banquet
L. H. S. Hoop Teams

The annual Hi-Dad banquet for the La Grande high school basketball teams and the honor students was held last night in the Sommer hotel with Grandad W. C. Perkins presiding.

The members of both boys' and girls' teams—both East Oregon champions—were present, also their coaches, Miss Johnson and Mrs. MacKenzie.

Among the speakers were George T. Cochran, Hal Bohnenkamp and Colton R. Elmerhard. Present and active in the high school and its activities were compared with past conditions.

ADVERTISING DID IT
CHICAGO—Clarence Saunders, who owed \$150,000 two years ago, now regards himself as a millionaire. Explaining his rise to the Illinois Manufacturers association he said he borrowed \$12,000 and most of it went into newspaper advertising.

Vanderbilts Seek
Divorce in Paris

PARIS, Apr. 28 (AP)—Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, the former Virginia Fair, filed suit for divorce with William K. Vanderbilt filed a counter suit for divorce in Paris courts today.

A date, three weeks, hence, was set for the usual attempt of the French court at reconciliation in the judge's chambers.

75 Per Cent Lamb
Crop Is Contracted

PENDLETON, Apr. 28 (AP)—Seventy-five per cent of the lambs of Eastern and Central Oregon have been contracted for already about the same as those of a year ago, says T. E. Boylen, of Pendleton, who has handled most of this business. Prices for the various type lambs range from 19 to 21 cents a pound. Mutton lambs will start moving east in July and the remainder in September. With the past 10 days 15,000 yearling ewes and wethers have been shipped to Montana at prices of from \$5 to \$12. Twenty thousand ewes with lambs have been sold to Colorado interests for shipment June 1.

U. P. DAIRY PROFITS SPECIAL HERE TODAY



Hundreds of farmers and citizens have greeted the Union Pacific-Oregon Agricultural college dairy profits special train at each of its stops on its Eastern Oregon itinerary and a large crowd is expected to attend the demonstration here this afternoon. From here the special will go to Elgin and other branchline points. It stopped in Pendleton this morning. Other local stops will include Union Junction, Haines and Baker.

HOPE CHEST TO
BE GIVEN AGAINJudge and Mrs. Brady
Return Prize They Won
at Dance Last Night

Presentation of the American Legion auxiliary hope chest, the feature of last night's dance in Legion hall, proceeds of which will help defray expenses of the July state convention, was made about 11 o'clock to Judge and Mrs. H. E. Brady as the result of a drawing. The chest has been on display in local windows for several weeks.

Mr. Brady today announced that as they were there are so many people who need the articles offered and could use them to a greater advantage, he will give the chest away from a truck on the corner of Adams and Depot streets at 9 o'clock Saturday evening, April 30. He announces that some little girl will be selected from the crowd and will assist him.

Dance Well Attended
Several hundred persons attended the dance last night, which was one of the most successful of the year. Before the dance orchestra began playing, the American Legion drum and bugle corps paraded through the business section.

Speaking of the drawing Mr. Brady said: "Although Mrs. Brady and myself together had ten chances on the hope chest, we feel that there are no many people who need the articles offered and could use them to a greater advantage, we have decided to have another drawing made and the lucky number will receive the chest. It's contents are intact and the ladies of the auxiliary of the American Legion inform me that they still have all of the articles in the box. I suggest that everyone save their tickets and attend the new drawing which will be held from a truck on the corner of Adams and Depot streets at 9 o'clock Saturday evening, April 30. The work of the auxiliary and the legion in preparing and assembling these articles was done entirely from a volunteer number drawn from any nation that I made were given in the spirit of assistance."

"The drawing will be done by some girl eight or ten years of age, who will be chosen from the crowd at the time the drawing is made, and will be under the supervision of Mr. A. T. Hill, president of the city. If arrangements have all of the articles in the box, it is impossible for Mr. Hill to be present, some other disinterested party, not a member of either organization, will be asked to supervise the drawing, and to draw his assistants from the crowd. He is to choose the girl that is to draw the lucky number."

"The same system will be used in this latter drawing and the volunteer number drawn from the box will win the prize."

"It is the hope of the auxiliary and of myself that someone in need of this chest and its contents will be fortunate enough to draw it."

High Court Denies
Delay Willows Asks

WASHINGTON, Apr. 28 (AP)—The United States supreme court yesterday refused delay in oral argument in the appeal of James Willows, under death sentence for murder in connection with a prison break at the Oregon state penitentiary, Chief Justice Taft announcing there was "evidence of juggling to postpone the case." Counsel for Willows were given 20 days to file a brief.

Counsel for the state insisted that as no federal question was involved the appeal should either be dismissed or the verdict of the lower court affirmed. He contended that the whole proceedings were for delay only.

To Begin Planting
Potatoes Monday

Grande Ronde valley farmers are getting ready to plant potatoes and a number will probably be started by the first of next week. There is expected to be an unusually large acreage in the county planted to potatoes this year, more than four carloads of certified seed potatoes having been shipped in here last fall.

Routh McKenken is putting in 55 acres of potatoes this year, which will probably be the largest single field. He expects to start his planting Monday.

Ragan Must Serve
Five-Year Term

PORTLAND, Ore., Apr. 28 (AP)—The maximum penalty for larceny was imposed today on Steve Ragan by Circuit Judge Fred Willson of the Dallas sitting in Portland when he was sentenced to five years in the state penitentiary. Ragan, jointly accused of assault and robbery with Albert Ford, will face trial again next week on a second similar indictment. The pair are charged by police with holding up ten different establishments in Portland.

20 Chinese Communists Executed;
Yangtse Situation Grows Critical

PEKING, Apr. 28 (AP)—Twenty Chinese communists, including a woman, arrested in the recent raid by the northern authorities on buildings attached to the soviet embassy here, were executed today by strangling. It was semi-officially announced.

This semi-official statement said that the prisoners were tried secretly for three days before a special court.

DISTURBING REPORTS
SHANGHAI, Apr. 28 (AP)—Disturbing news continued to be received from Hankow today bearing out reports of a tense situation in the Yangtze stronghold of the radical Cantonese organization. A wireless dispatch said that in anticipation of trouble, eight three-inch field guns had been set up near the Chinese race club and that trenches had been prepared. It was also reported that the Japanese, the object of attacks by the Chinese recently, had extended and made stronger the defenses separating their concession from the native city.

Kiukiang on the Yangtze river about 120 miles southeast of Hankow, reported that troops of General Chiang Kai-shek, commander of the moderate section of the Cantonese, were within 20 miles of Kiukiang and that fighting was going on. Kiukiang was giving shelter to a great many refugees from Hankow, who said that residents in the native city of American missionaries were being looted and occupied by troops.

Southerners Defeated
The defeat of the southerners in a battle with northern troops moving from the Han river toward Peking was reported in a wireless message from Hankow.

All train service between Nanking and Changchow on the Grand Canal, was suspended by the nationalist military authorities, the reason was not explained.

Three Die When
Engine Collides
With Passenger

CASPER, Wyo., Apr. 28 (AP)—Two locomotive engineers and one fireman were killed when Burlington train No. 30, Denver to Billings, collided head-on with a light engine at 1:15 this morning near Uva, Wyo., 19 miles south of Wendover on the Colorado and Southern branch of the line, according to information obtained this morning from division headquarters of the Burlington here. Only meagre details were received.

The dead are Engineer J. R. Morgan, of Cheyenne, passenger train engineer and the crew of the light engine—Engineer C. B. Carter and Fireman C. H. Morgan, both of Cheyenne. No passengers were killed or injured according to reports. Engineer Morgan, who was killed, was the father of the light engine fireman, who was also killed.

State Rests in
Snyder Murder
Trial at 12:25

QUEENS COUNTY COURT HOUSE, N. Y., Apr. 28 (AP)—Motions by defense counsel at the Snyder murder trial to disqualify the charges against Ruth Snyder and Henry Judd Gray were denied today.

QUEENS COUNTY COURT HOUSE, N. Y., Apr. 28 (AP)—The state rested its case in the Snyder murder trial at 12:25 p. m. today.

Edgar F. Hamilton, of defense counsel, announced that Mrs. Snyder will take the stand in her own defense tomorrow.

Closing of the case against Mrs. Ruth Snyder and Henry Judd Gray came after testimony of a group of Syracuseans, including Haddon Gray, who helped his friend Judd establish an alibi, thinking he was merely covering up Judd's absence while he was enjoying a "mild flirtation." Haddon Gray testified that Judd Gray confessed to him the killing of Albert Snyder. The confession was said to have been made in jail after Henry Judd Gray was charged with murder.

Court Adjourned
Court was then adjourned until 4 o'clock this afternoon when defense will begin presentation of their case.

The adjournment was taken to allow defense lawyers to prepare motions.

Half of Offenders
In Portland Jailed

PORTLAND, Ore., Apr. 28 (AP)—Chief of Police Jenkins today declared that 50 per cent of offenders participating in the recent crime wave in Portland have been jailed, and that his officers are working on the other cases relentlessly. Chief Jenkins claimed that Portland's record for lawlessness was better than almost all other cities of comparative size of population.

GUARD LEVEE
AS TIME FOR
BREAK NEARSEfforts to Save New Orleans
from Disastrous
Flood ProgressingNOON FRIDAY SET
AS "ZERO HOUR"Raging Mississippi Drives
200,000 from Homes—
Property Damage Is
Around 200 Million.

NEW ORLEANS, Apr. 28 (AP)—Five thousand residents of St. Bernard and Plaquemine parishes in Louisiana were abandoning their homes today and carrying all their portable possessions to New Orleans under the menace of Mississippi flood waters to be loosed tomorrow by the deliberate breaking of their protecting levee.

The great crevasse, designed to sacrifice the two parishes in an attempt to save New Orleans from flood waters, will be created at noon tomorrow in a manner as yet undesignated by engineers who feared that revelation of their plans might arouse troublesome resistance.

Although many of the parish residents received the official edict of banishment from their homes with good grace, bitter resentment was apparent in the hearing of others. Many farmers and trappers patrolled the levee with axes and saws, ready to break it in any manner to break it. Despite assurances of city and state officials that complete reimbursement would be made for all damages, State militia and New Orleans police patrolled a levee about New Orleans to prevent an attempt to dynamite it and save the two parishes at the expense of flooding the city.

Despite the spectacular phase of the lower Mississippi flood, the crest of the waters was still far upstream. As the flood continued to spread over Mississippi and Arkansas, Ashley county in the latter state was inundated and 600 persons were driven to refuge in Hankow. The exodus from McGeeville mostly under water continued, with the refugee ranks at Monticello the concentration point, numbering upwards of 6000. There was grave danger of heavy loss of life at Belmont, Miss., and its immediate vicinity, and plans were made for hurried relief work today.

Epidemics Reported
Refugees were reported at 14 refugee camps scattered over Arkansas where measles, mumps, whooping cough, pellagra and malaria were prevalent and it was stated the situation was becoming acute. Many of the refugees refused to be inoculated and vaccinated.

Health authorities of the flood-damaged states were called to meet in Memphis today, with Dr. William R. Redden, national medical officer of the Red Cross to adopt a program of health conservation in the inundated regions.

10,000 Menaced
Estimates at Cincinnati, Miss., relief headquarters were that 10,000 persons were in danger at Hollandale, Arcola and Belmont and Yazoo City, Miss., with a continued rise of water called for aid to remove thousands of persons. Boats were concentrated at Gulfport last night in response to the call.

Greenville, Miss., reported that the river was above their altitude, though water flowing through North and South street was faster than that in the stream itself.

Crest of Flood Passes
Engineers there expected no further rise at Greenville, indicating the crest of the flood had passed on south.

Greenville reported sporadic looting of business houses by negroes and an 8 o'clock curfew law was enforced by soldiers who patrolled in boats with orders to shoot men refusing to halt. Five negroes were arrested for looting and placed in the second story of the jail.

THE FLOOD AT A GLANCE
By the Associated Press
Hope surges above flood dangers as New Orleans prepares to meet her unprecedented menace from the raging Mississippi crest by cutting a great dike at Bayou La Chaux at noon tomorrow.

Resentment and indignation at sacrifice of homes to save the city

(Continued on Page 4)

TODAY'S GAMES

NATIONAL LEAGUE
NEW YORK (AP)—R. H. E.
Boston 3 8 2
New York 4 7 2
Batteries: Smith and Taylor; Barnes and Devorner.

AMERICAN LEAGUE
BOSTON (AP)—Boston-New York, postponed, cold.