

CITY EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER OREGON: Fair tonight and Friday with fog over the coast. Temperature about normal in the interior. Low humidity; moderate northerly winds on the coast.

VOLUME XXV.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

LA GRANDE, OREGON, THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1927.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBER 292

State Legion, Auxiliary Officials



Arthur Murphy, of Portland, state commander of the American Legion, who arrived in La Grande yesterday.



Carl Moser, state adjutant, is getting ready for La Grande for the other officials. He came here Monday and is putting in an entire week in the convention city.



Mrs. Anna Herschler, of Hood River, is president of the Oregon women's auxiliary to the American Legion.



Mrs. Mabel McIntire, of Marshfield, is here as department secretary of the American Legion auxiliary of Oregon.

CONVENTION PARKING, TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

No parking of motor vehicles will be allowed on Adams avenue from Fir to Third streets during the three days of the American Legion convention, July 21, 22 and 23, and during driving or stunts on Adams, the section of street will be entirely closed to traffic.

This ruling was made by the city commission at the request of the American Legion post here.

LEGION CONVENTION OPENS TODAY

DELEGATIONS REACH 1,000 MARK EARLY

Hundreds Arriving Today by Trains and Cars—Two Specials In

OPENING MEETING HELD AT 10 A. M.

La Grande Extends Welcome to Visitors at Session of American Legion and Auxiliary.

The ninth annual state American Legion convention formally opened its three day sessions here this morning with more than 1000 delegates and visitors present, including National Commander Howard Paul Savage, of Chicago, and Charles Mills, of Miami, Fla., chief wrecker of the national 49th S. society.

The blare of trumpets and the beat of drums awoke the city to the fact that the opening day of convention had arrived, when legion corps—brilliantly attired and fearlessly drilled—from Portland, Medford and other cities paraded the business sections early this morning. The special train bearing part of the Western Oregon contingent arrived about 7 o'clock and a second special, from Salem and Willamette valley points, pulled in about 10:30 a. m. Hundreds of legionnaires are arriving hourly today in cars from all parts of the state.

Savage Is Welcomed. Commander Savage, escorted by a cheering band of Unaffiliated legion members of chief two post, the only all-Indian legion organization in America, and by members of the Pendleton post in cowboy regalia, reached La Grande late last night after a tiring welcome at Pendleton and dinner at Sunset Inn on the top of Mt. Hood mountains. The La Grande delegation met Savage and his party at Sunset Inn and entertained them on into La Grande.

Many Officials Here. Besides Savage and Mills national officers here include Don Sorensen, national director of Americanism, of New York; James Irwin, of Spokane, former national commander; Ed-National Commander John R. Quinn, of California, is expected today.

Preliminary meetings were held last night by both the legion and auxiliary.

Observer Will Receive Fight Returns Tonight

With Charles E. Robinson, fight expert and former referee, at the microphone, the Evening Observer will give returns of the Dempsey-Sharkey heavyweight fight beginning at 5:30 o'clock this evening in front of the Observer office. The microphone will project from the second story window and all in the street below will have an equal chance to hear the round by round description of the battle as brought here from New York by the Associated Press leased wire.

THOUSANDS OF CONVENTION VISITORS

The streets of La Grande will be crowded throughout the time of the Legion convention and crowded with members of the Legion, crowded with additional thousands from surrounding towns and counties.

Places of business can show the city and their individual hospitality most quickly and most thoroughly through the columns of The Observer. Each afternoon edition will be sold at all news stands and by newsboys on all streets. A fight extra will be issued Thursday evening, following the receipt of the blow-by-blow story of the Sharkey-Dempsey bout, and will be sold throughout the city. Constant, certain contact with the city's visitors will be possible in The Observer every day in addition to the regular coverage of the La Grande territory.

"Observer Advertising—A Merchandising Service"

Sideways Of The Convention

Bert Bates, associate publisher of the Roseburg News-Review, late of Hollywood, Cal., where he charmed the actresses of the film world, has gone into competition with his home town paper. On the Portland special train an issue of the new publication was distributed last night. Bates has refused to allow general printing of its title.

The master of the McMinville Trump Band announces they have a repertoire of 23 popular pieces—all of them entitled "How Dry I Am."

National Commander Howard P. Savage is in the same class with President Calvin Coolidge now. They both wear sunshades and have been recognized by the legion.

Members of the Unaffiliated Indian post insist that they could be the biggest and best looking policeman on the Portland force. Numerous comrades have expressed concern whether that is a hint or a suggestion.

Phil Jackson, publisher of the Oregon Journal, is accompanied about the convention city by the biggest and best looking policeman on the Portland force. Numerous comrades have expressed concern whether that is a hint or a suggestion.

Bert Bates, Roseburg's prize humorist, visited the police station this morning and offered his experienced services to Chief Fletcher in case of any unexpected uprising.

The sweeping crew of the city is getting ready today, and when the official week takes place a good time is to be had by all—almost.

Head drummers and boaters

SIDEWALK, STREET WORK TAKEN UP

Commission Creates Several Improvements Districts; Lets Contract

Letting of a contract to P. J. Lilly for construction of concrete pavement in the alley in the block bounded by Fir and Greenwood streets and Adams and Jefferson avenues and creation of a number of improvement districts featured the meeting of the city commission last night.

Three bids were received on the paving job. Mr. Lilly bidding \$121.28 on concrete. The engineer's estimate was \$125.39. Hartshorn and Speech bid \$2,828.10 on concrete and the Warren Construction company presented three bids on blacktop, which were rejected because the commission did not wish this type for the contract.

Sidewalk improvement districts 174, 175, 176, and 177 were created and Aug. 16 was set as the time for hearing of remonstrances. The four districts provide for sidewalks on Seventh from E to K, on Benton avenue, on H from Third to Sixth and on Second from D to K, the latter connecting Old Town with the business section.

Street improvement district 3-2, for sanitary sewers along North Cherry street, was created and Aug. 19 was set as the time for hearing remonstrances.

Routine matters occupied the commissioners' time during the remainder of the session.

Band Concert Is Appreciated By Large Crowd

Before a large and appreciative crowd, the La Grande municipal band appeared in concert last night at the high school athletic field. The several hundred persons present applauded the numbers constantly, demanding many encores.

Among the pieces played were "Victor Herbert Favorites," only lately arranged for concert bands, and the "March of St. Louis," dedicated to Col. Charles Lindbergh. Paul Knutson, baritone, sang a vocal solo and the overture "Hansel and Gretel" by Keler-Bela closed the concert.

The concert was regarded as one of the most successful in the band's history.

Union County's Pioneers Gather In Park Reunion

Dunham Wright Responds to Addresses of Welcome—List of Departed Members Grows.

The 25th annual meeting of the pioneers of Union county was opened this morning at 10 o'clock when Mrs. Hattie Eckley, presiding officer called upon the Rev. Oliver Riley for invocation. The meeting officially began when Mrs. Eckley called upon A. T. Hill, president of the city commission, to welcome the pioneers in behalf of the city of La Grande. President Hill extended greetings to the 200 listeners, and praised the beauty of the Grande Ronde valley, pointing out that pioneers and recent La Granders alike were comrades in their love and pride of the valley.

Mrs. Eckley next introduced Senator A. R. Hunter who welcomed the pioneers in behalf of the Sons and Daughters of Pioneers. Mr. Hunter praised the courage and bravery of the early pioneers mothers and fathers, pointing out sacrifices that were endured for the benefit of the sons and daughters and future generations. Citing the recent accomplishment of Col. Lindbergh, Mr. Hunter declared that in the days of pioneer deeds of similar daring and bravery were performed by young pioneers, but were not so universally known. Here Mr. Hunter gave as example one of Union county's pioneers, George Gray, of Lower Cove, who was an early pony express rider. In conclusion, Mr. Hunter said tribute to the number mothers by reading the well known poem "The Pioneer Mother," by Walter K. Beecher.

Dunham Wright, of Medical Springs, president of the association, was then called upon to respond for the pioneers. That Mr. Wright said with approval and feeling, citing briefly the stepping stones in the building of the Oregon at today from the vast unsettled wilderness of the days of the Lewis and Clark expedition.

Mr. Wright is one of the earliest pioneers and through his association with the early leaders of Oregon, has gained first hand knowledge of the history of the state, all of which he presents with clarity and forthrightness. Mr. Wright briefly explained a proposition which will come before the association whereby the by-laws of the organization might be changed to admit settlers as well as pioneers, since so many of the pioneers have

(Continued on Page Three)

More Rooms Are Needed To House Legion Visitors

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Steele Starts Drive Which Is To End July 27

Elmer Steele, driving a Star car supplied by Jim Marslock, was handicapped to the wheel this morning in front of The Observer office by Police Chief Clint Haynes and at 10 o'clock started an endurance drive which will continue until next Wednesday noon. Mr. Steele hopes to break his own record of 144 hours by two days.

He will drive in and about La Grande today at a speed ranging from three to 20 miles an hour and will diet on milk furnished by the Blue Mountain creamery. His car is equipped with a Brunswick phonograph furnished by Glass Feigs and an Atwater Kent radio furnished by Jess Rosenblatt. He is using Texaco gasoline.

Mr. Steele is attended constantly by a nurse who attends to his feeding.

Pendleton Man Is Dobbin's Successor

SALEM, Ore., July 21 (AP)—K. H. Warner, of Pendleton, was today appointed by Governor Paterson as a member of the state livestock sanitary board. He will represent the Oregon Wool Growers' association. He succeeds Jay H. Dobbin, of Enterprise.

LEGIONWORK OVER OREGON IS PRAISED

Howard Savage, National Commander, Brings Message to This State

WORK PROGRESSING IN SPLENDID WAY

Repeats American Legion Plea for Adequate National Defense, in Address This Morning.

The American Legion work in Oregon and this department's wholehearted support of legion endeavors this year were praised by Howard P. Savage, national commander, in an address before the state convention of the organization here today.

"It has been an inspiration to me to see the reports of tasks accomplished coming in from every part of Oregon," he said.

There are several states that have a larger legion membership than Oregon because they have a larger population, but there are few that are ahead of Oregon in the standing of states when their legion membership is compared to the number of ex-service men eligible to belong. Oregon, out of the 48 states and the two departments of Alaska and the District of Columbia, is number 12 in this respect.

Membership Vital

"Membership is a vital subject for the legion, and as the public has come to realize that the legion's power to do good depends upon its internal strength, there has been a general public interest in this growth of the organization. Mayors and governors have issued proclamations in several instances because they see in the legion a leading force for better citizenship and loyal devotion to those ideals that are to be found in the best of Americanism. As a result of this general interest, the legion is 20,000 stronger than at this time a year ago.

In all the major objectives of the national organization this year, Oregon has done her full share, and success is assured in each of these national endeavors. In community service, the principal effort this year, as I believe it will continue to be in years to come, Oregon is among the leading departments in encouraging the activities of our boys and girls and promoting public enterprises that will benefit everybody.

Praises Oregon Posts

"From Medford comes the report of Legion Post No. 15, which has sponsored the boys' camp, developed summer camps, established playgrounds and a golf course and engaged in many other activities."

(Continued from Page Two)

Friday, July 22

9:00 a. m.—Call to order by department commander; advancement of colors; invocation, Dr. A. C. Bailey, department chaplain; report of committee on time and place; convention committee; distinguished guests.

12:30 p. m.—Luncheon.

1:30 p. m.—Call to order by department commander; addresses; distinguished guests; report of convention committee.

4:00 p. m.—Retirement of colors and adjournment.

4:15 p. m.—Drum corps concert.

6:00 p. m.—Drum corps band.

7:30 p. m.—Band concert.

8:00 p. m.—Prizes, contest, coronation, etc.—Elate temple.

9:00 p. m.—Three public dances.

NORMAL SCHOOL DEFERRED

H. P. SAVAGE



Here is the head of all the legionnaires—National Commander Howard Paul Savage, of Chicago, who arrived here last night on a special train and will spend the rest of this week with his buddies. He has seen office state conventions to visit before going home.

SAVAGE PLEASED WITH CONVENTION

Praises La Grande's Hospitality Upon Arrival Here From Fargo

If this morning's examples carried out through the entire convention here, the meeting of the Oregon legionnaires will equal that of the largest department convention which he has attended. National Commander Howard P. Savage, of Chicago, declared this morning.

He commented on the decoration of the city, saying it was the finest he had seen this year in his visits to various towns in attend state conventions. "It shows that the people of the community and the legion are working together," Commander Savage said, "and after all that is what we are working for—to make the home town the best in which to live. The Legion over all the United States is following a community service program this year, and we feel that we have accomplished much."

"The legion has had a good year. It is coming into its own more and more and is growing fast. It can't help it—the same spirit exists in every ex-service man all over the nation. They are all alike, and have a feeling toward one another which no one else realizes."

"We Can Do Much"

"As individuals we amount to very little, but with the 11,000 posts all over the United States working together we can do much."

National Commander Savage, with Don Sorensen, national chairman of Americanism, arrived in La Grande last night, accompanied by representatives of the Pendleton legion post and from the local post. The Pendleton delegation accompanied them from Walla Walla where the national commander visited the veterans' hospital and shook hands with all of the ex-service men there.

Wearing Sunshades

This morning hats Mr. Savage and Mr. Sorensen were wearing today.

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Accuse Wheeler And Olmstead of Bank Conspiracy

Federal Indictments Returned Against Prominent Portland Men—Both Give Bail

PORTLAND, Ore., July 21 (AP)—Emory Olmstead, former president of the Northwestern National bank, yesterday secretly indicted with J. E. Wheeler, timber man and former newspaper publisher, by the federal grand jury on charges of misappropriation of the bank's funds, was arraigned today before Federal Judge John H. McNary and pleaded not guilty.

PORTLAND, Ore., July 21 (AP)—Arrested on federal indictments charging conspiracy and violation of the national banking laws Ray Olmstead former president of the Northwestern National bank, now defunct, and J. E. Wheeler, Portland timberman, and former publisher, were at liberty today under bond of \$15,000 each.

The indictments against the men charge specifically that the misuse of the \$796,514 of the banks funds, although government attorneys say the sum of \$11,000.00 is involved in what they term a spectacular system of check "kiting" between Pennsylvania banks and the Northwestern National.

Wheeler is charged with depositing worthless checks totaling \$796,514 in the Northwestern National bank, and with withdrawing that amount in cash.

Olmstead is accused by the government of ordering these checks placed to the credit of the McCormick Lumber company account, where Wheeler, his president, could draw against them.

Three Years

The constitution to operate in this manner existed, the government says, from October 2, 1924, to March 29, 1927, on which date the Portland Clearing House association took over the affairs of the Northwestern National following a continued run on the institution by depositors.

Danger of Fires In Forests Grows

PORTLAND, Ore., July 21 (AP)—Increased danger of forest fires due to the relatively low humidity in this section of the Pacific northwest, has caused Edward L. Wells, meteorologist at the local office of the United States weather bureau to issue warnings to all tourists and campers.

TODAY'S GAMES

Table with columns for AMERICAN LEAGUE and NATIONAL LEAGUE, listing teams and scores.

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BUILDING OF INSTITUTION IS HELD UP

Additional Vote Needed to Cause Immediate Construction

FINANCIAL SNARL GIVEN AS REASON

Petition by Three Members Would Result in Another Called Meeting to Consider School.

SALEM, Ore., July 21 (AP)—Unless four of the nine members of the board of state normal school regents can muster an additional vote and then ask the governor to call a special session of the board there is no prospect for the construction of the new normal school at La Grande this year and possibly not during the present state administration.

With eight members present, and apparently evenly divided on the question, those who favored immediate construction withdrew their efforts when they saw that a vote by the members present would be fatal. Regent W. C. Bryant, of Moro, was absent, and how he would have voted is a question.

Instead the board unanimously voted to defer action for the present. The law provides, however, that if three members petition the governor to call a special meeting, he must do so and when the session adjourned it appeared possible that this must be done.

The state financial snarl and the recent opinion of the state supreme court holding it unconstitutional for the state to go into debt over \$50,000 was at the bottom of the trouble. In voting to defer action the board adopted a resolution introduced by Secretary of State Kozer, which read:

"In view of the recent opinion of the supreme court in the case of Peterson vs. the state of Oregon, and in view of the fact that such opinion declares that no indebtedness may be incurred by the state in excess of the limitation provided by the constitution but does not prescribe a method whereby the fiscal officers of the state may definitely determine when the authorized expenditures may exceed public revenues, he it resolved by the board of regents of normal schools that further action by the board of regents on the construction of the Eastern Oregon normal school at La Grande be deferred until the next session of the board."

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Marshfield Man To Flip From Foley

Running 100 to form and upholding their past reputation for presenting the annual the drum corps of Coon Bay Post No. 17 from Marshfield will present a thrilling stunt free to the public at the corner of Adams avenue and Chestnut streets Friday night at 8:30 o'clock. J. Dentley Sruft, a member of the drum corps from the coast city and a high diver and athlete of note, will do a double somersault leap from the roof of the Foley building, landing in a net held by his comrades in the street. Mr. Sruft comes from a long line of swimmers and circus performers, and desires to add to the record on the coast by exhibiting his thrilling performance at large amusement parks in the east.

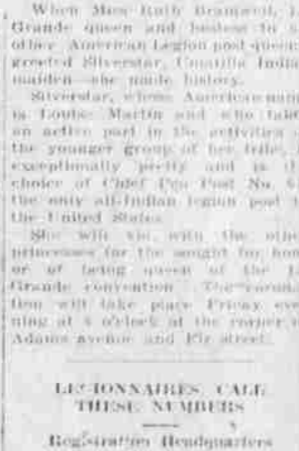
La Grande Stores To Close Saturday

La Grande stores will close Saturday afternoon from 3 until 7 o'clock to permit an employee to view the American Legion convention parade and other features on the afternoon program. It was announced this morning.

MISS BRAMWELL GREET'S SILVERSTAR



RUTH BRAMWELL



SILVERSTAR



SILVERSTAR



SILVERSTAR