

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES IN THIS CITY AMONG BEST OFFERED IN OREGON

LA GRANDE SCHOOLS LARGEST AND BEST IN EASTERN OREGON

First Educational Institution Started Here in 1863 With Five Students;—High School and Four Grade Schools at Present Accommodate 2313 Pupils; Half Million in Buildings

The growth of La Grande's population and the progress of the city itself is probably shown better in the development of the schools of the city than by any other institution. The changes and advancement of the schools in La Grande show the first school which was privately owned—in the year 1863 to the present large public school system, which includes four modern grade schools, buildings in addition to a large high school, and a normal school, and the fact that over five hundred children are now attending the schools of La Grande is a fair testimony to the progress of the city. The schools of La Grande have become something of a fairy tale to the children of today, who hear of the pioneer days in La Grande and the early settlers and their great-grandfathers.

Not only has the size of the school and the number of students changed, where reading and spelling comprised the curriculum of the first school and discarded newspapers and one reader substituted the study of learning, the La Grande schools now have all that is new in subjects, methods and equipment.

Mr. Curry First Teacher
La Grande's first school was opened by David M. Curry, grandfather of George H. Curry, and Fryer H. Curry, business men of this city today, and was located in his home on N street in old La Grande. Ten dollars was the annual tuition fee charged. The first five students to attend the school were: John H. Curry, Russell Chapman, William H. Brown, Add Brown Rogers and her sister, Esther Brown Rogers.

A few years after the opening of the private school here a public school became a necessity, and the first school building was erected in La Grande over a whole block near the mouth of Mill canyon. The building was a two-story wood structure and housed two school rooms, the older children being in the upstairs room and the smaller children downstairs. At that time there were no graded schools and as soon as a child had finished the books that were used downstairs he was moved to the upstairs room.

As the population of the city increased school rooms were opened in private homes to handle the overflow, and a school where "read and write school" was held, which at that time seemed large enough to care for school demands for years to come. This building was located on Second street and K avenue, back of where the Central school building now stands. It was a two-story structure and equipped with not only for the eight elementary grades, but furnished the first high school course available in La Grande. The name "White school" originated from the name of the man who built it.

Brick School Erected
It was not long, however, until the building—as large as it seemed at that time—proved inadequate, and in the year 1888 a little two-story brick school building was constructed on the north side of the city, the same building which is now located on Fir street, now being changed into a residence.

Among the teachers of these early schools were Ella Weathers, Emma, Carry Williams, Olive Miller, Bertha Slater Smith, Rosa Gahert, Nellie Maynard, Jeanette Clark, Ingers, Lillian and Grace McCullough, Mrs. E. A. Franks, Miss Violet, Savannah and Della Phillips, and others. The private school the little brick school was opened.

These two school buildings sufficed for a time, but with the steady population growth more room became necessary and school rooms were established in various business buildings around town. The old Masonic hall in Old Town, the first brick building in La Grande, was used to house one school room and two school rooms were located in a building on Washington street, where the

new Mountain elementary new stands. Another school room was located in the Curry building on Fir street and it was the duty of Harvey Markweather, principal of La Grande schools when the Central school building was constructed in the year 1895 to gather together the students of these various school rooms and organize them into one school.

Even the Central school building, which houses both the grade and high school, was not large enough for several grades to remain in the White school building. Then in the year 1906 the Greenwood school building was erected on Greenwood street and W avenue, an outgrowth of the little two-story brick of which Mrs. Nellie M. Noles was principal for eight years previous to the opening of Greenwood school.

Steady Expansion
The walls and foundation of this new school building were laid one year and the building remained that way all winter. In the spring the building was completed, making four more rooms available for the public schools of La Grande for the first two years after the finishing of the building, constant growth made more room necessary. Since that time many additions have been made to the building, making much more room available.

The school opened with Mrs. Nellie as principal, who served as such until another grade school became necessary and the Ivyville school building was constructed on North Second street in the year 1912.

Build Present High School
Three years before that time, however, the high school building was erected next to the Central school building, taking over all of the space in that building for the elementary grades. In 1917, three years before the erection of the high school building, there were four high school graduates—Nelson Williamson, Mollie Snider, Chase Holmquist and Hattie McMillan.

By the year 1921 the high school had grown to such an extent that additional room was necessary and the industrial art building was constructed at the back of the school building on K avenue, and the department which was formerly handled in the basement of the high school building was moved to the new building, giving room for study hall, and several additional grade school rooms in the basement of the high school building. The Central school building, having grown to such proportions that no more room was available there.

Three years ago the Willow school building was built on Willow street, making four additional rooms for the grade schools of the city. About a year ago two more rooms were added to the school. Following Mr. Markweather as superintendent of La Grande schools Mr. Martin became superintendent, then J. T. Hockenberry, J. D. Stout, John Girard, Linden McCullough, A. C. Hampton and at present J. T. Longfellow.

Buildings Worth \$448,000
The school buildings owned by school district No. 1, which comprises the city limits of La Grande and a little additional territory, are valued at a total of \$448,000. The high school building being valued at \$150,000; the industrial art building, \$135,000; the Greenwood school, \$125,000; the Ivyville school, \$48,000 and Willow, \$25,000.

There are 26 classes in the four grade school buildings, including one at Greenwood and 17 at Ivyville, with an average of three in the high school building making a total of 26. In the high school building there are 19 class rooms, including four in the industrial art building, a gymnasium and locker rooms in the basement and an auditorium, which will seat 450 persons.

2313 Students in H. S.
The high school had a total of 2313 students at the close of the school year last spring. The Central school had the largest enrollment of the grade schools, having 674 students, Greenwood 243, Ivyville 237, and Willow 205, making the total school enrollment in the city 2313.

In comparison with the two teachers employed to teach the first school in La Grande a total of 32 teachers are now employed in the public school system here, including the principal of the various schools. There are six teachers in the Willow school, of which Mrs. Helen Bennett is principal, nine in the Ivyville school, with Chester Gilbert as principal, 12 in the Greenwood school, with H. A. Winkerson as principal, and 20 in the Central school with Mrs. H. A. McCullough as principal. There are 22 teachers in the high school, including W. W. Nashburn, who is music supervisor for the entire school system; Mrs. Gladys Douglas, art and penmanship supervisor; and H. D. Towser, principal of the high school.

Rapid Growth
The rapid growth in the number of school children in the city is shown in a comparison of the school census taken in 1920, which showed 1,134 children of school age within the district, and the census in the fall of 1926, which showed a total of 2,765 children of school age. Since 1915 there has been an increase in the school pop-

ulation of nearly 1,600, the census taken at this year showing 1,942 school children.

Not only has the school census increased, but the actual enrollment in the schools of La Grande has made a marked growth each year. When the enrollment in 1912 totaled 1,134, students the number now is 2,313. The growth has been steady, each year finding the enrollment larger than the previous year, except during the period of the World War when the enrollment was slightly smaller, since 1920 there has been a rapid growth. The enrollment this year was 1962 and the next year had grown to 2174. In 1922 the enrollment had grown to 1849; 1923, 1921; 1924, 1926; 1925, 2145; 1926, 2173 and 1927, 2313.

The La Grande public school system has progressed in many ways during the past few years. Two years ago the department of music was reorganized and placed under a music supervisor. Last year a high school band was organized with a membership of 45, and applications for membership this year are expected to bring the number up to 50.

The art department has progressed rapidly under the supervision of Mrs. Douglas, and for the past two years an art exhibit has been taken from here to Spokane for the Inland Empire Teachers' association convention, where it received special commendation from authorities and ranked with exhibits from schools of much larger cities.

Better Physical Training
The first of last year the physical training departments in both the high school and grade schools were reorganized for both boys and girls. The director of physical education for the boys of the

(Continued on Page Six)

THE BEAUTIFUL LA GRANDE HIGH SCHOOL



The La Grande high school building, pictured above, was erected here several years ago and houses more than 250 students annually. The handsome structure is flanked on the south by Central grade school building and behind it are the domestic science and manual training two-story brick building and the modern athletic field. The trees and shrubbery lawn surrounding the building, located at Fourth between M and K, make it one of the beauty spots of the city.

But, drink and be merry—and too many of us are apt to forget that we will have to borrow money tomorrow at the expense of lives trying to fix the house on the other shore.

NORMAL SCHOOL TO BE BUILT HERE IN VERY NEAR FUTURE

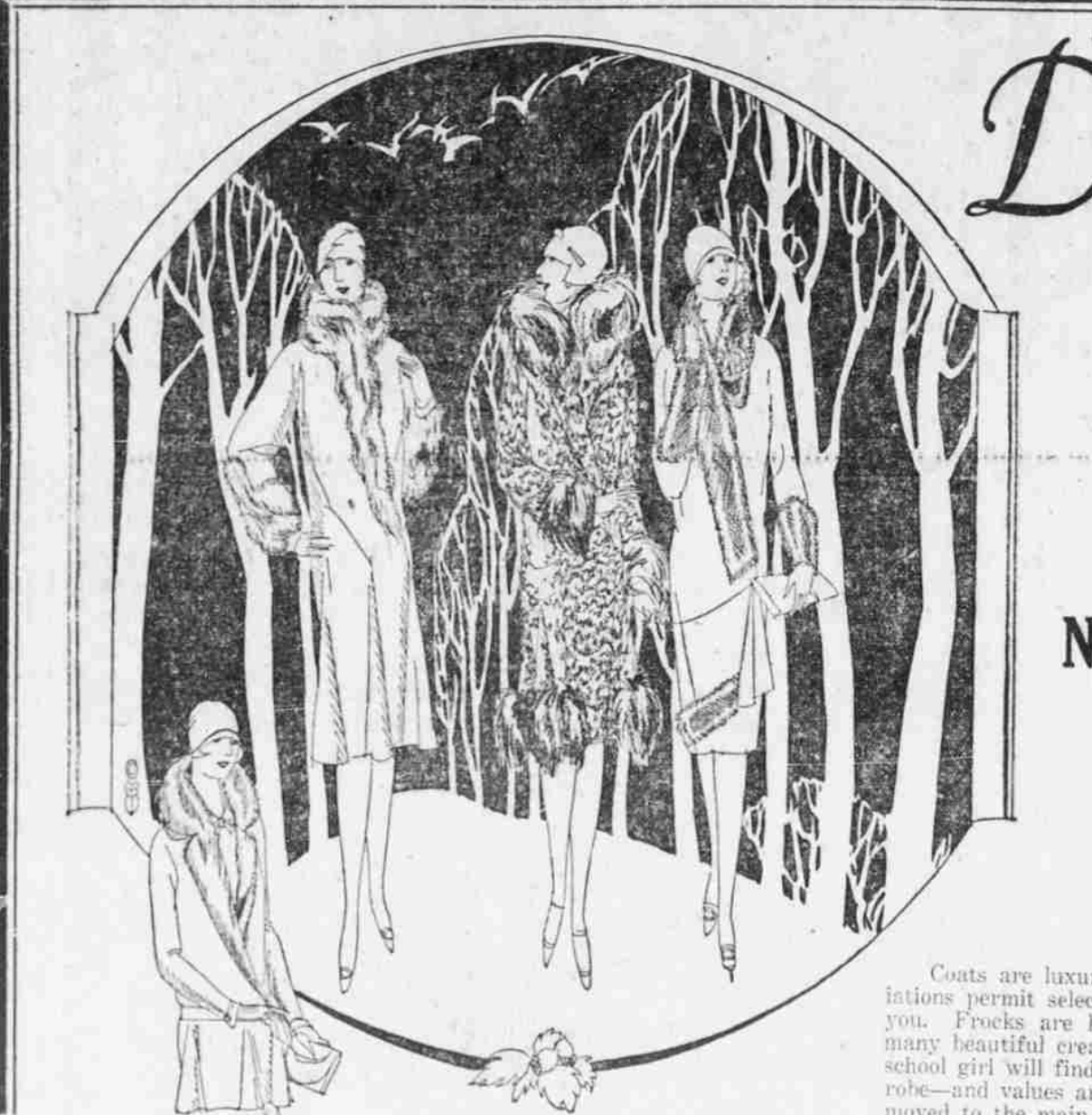
State Board of Regents Select La Grande as Ideal Site for Higher Educational Institution—More Than \$200,000 Already Appropriated for First Buildings; Site Deeded by City

La Grande is not only enjoying progress in a business and industrial way, but also educationally. With the selection of this city as the site for the new Eastern Oregon Normal school, prominent educators of the Northwest declared that within a few years after the opening of the institution a student body of some 1,000 persons might be expected, drawing from all of Eastern Oregon and parts of Idaho and Southwestern Washington. They declared that the selection of La Grande had been a wise move on the part of the Oregon regents, who met a unanimous vote on the final ballot, and predicted that this city would become one of the greatest educational centers in the Inland Empire as a result.

Preparations are going ahead, slowly on the part of the state for financial reasons, for the construction of the first units of this higher educational institution, but local people are sure that the school will be erected within the coming year.

Appropriates \$215,000
The Oregon legislature appropriated \$215,000 for the building of a first structure and an additional \$10,000 for maintenance last

(Continued on Page Six)



Distinctive Autumn modes

New Coats---New Frocks
New Millinery

To dress smartly without extravagance—to be sure of authentic style and still keep within the moderate wardrobe budget. That is the goal we seek for you in providing the charming coats, frocks, hats, dress fabrics, and accessories for Fall wear. They are here in rich array and the great variety invites the early shopper.

Coats are luxurious in fall colors and soft fur trim. Style variations permit selecting the particular model that will most become you. Frocks are here in all the new silks—rich fall shades and many beautiful creations in black, the most wanted color. The school girl will find just the right dresses for her semester's wardrobe—and values are excellent. Our millinery department has been moved to the main floor and there you will find the newest in chic fall hats—felts, velours, rich silks.

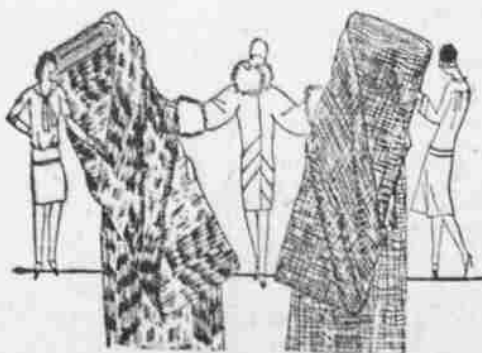
Stylish Dress Accessories

Wearing quality is best combined with sheer beauty in the Wayne-Knit silk hose. Hummingbirds are of equally well known value—and the newest shades are here. New gloves, the daintiest of silk and rayon underthings, Gossard corsets—a complete and varied stock in keeping with the new season.

This store is known for unusual blanket values—heavy warm blankets in every grade, well finished, and of choice wool or wool-and-cotton. Supply your winter blanket needs now from this dependable season.

Fall Silks

Every bolt of fall dress fabric will intrigue you if you are clever enough to do your own sewing. New patterns and colors suggest many smart creations. Staple piece goods include the nationally famous ABC silks—low in price, perfectly guaranteed.



Shoes

In keeping with the fall styles these newest ties, straps and smart pumps. New trim is used with particular effect. Every shoe is well made, carefully fitted.

Store-Wide Sale Ends Saturday

The last three days of this great sale are here. Hundreds of special bargains still remain. Take advantage of sale prices before this week ends.

Dependable Values

HILL'S

Dependable Values

RIGHT HANDY—

"Where did you get that good candy, Sally?"

"Why, at Duffey's. They have everything in the line of confections—and it is so handy!"

We have Ice Cream, Candies, Drinks, Lunch Goods, Tobaccos.

Duffey's Confectionery
Mrs. C. E. Duffey, Prop.