

CITY
EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER
OREGON: Cloudy tonight and
Friday, probably occasional rain
over the extreme north portion.
Moderate temperature.

VOLUME XXVI.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

LA GRANDE, OREGON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1927.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBER 87

CREWS TO BE RETAINED AS CITY MANAGER

Commission Tables Indefinitely Petition Asking His Removal

CLOSING OF FIFTH STREET GRANTED

Executives Refuse to Spend \$127.50 for Advertisement in Old Oregon Trail Booklets.

City Manager W. C. Crews, who was charged with "extravagance and inefficiency" in a petition signed by 179 persons and filed about two weeks ago, was upheld by the city commission last night and the petition, with signatures reduced to little more than 80 "legal signers," was tabled indefinitely by the city executives.

Prior to this action, a second petition, signed by Stanley Stiles, was read which asked that the commission permit the petitioners on the original request to select two members of an investigating committee, the commission select two and the four appointees select a fifth man.

Commissioners' Opinions
"I feel this way," Commissioner Charles Playle said, "If they are going to take it out of the commission's hands, let them take it out."

A. T. Hill, president of the commission, said that he believed the "best thing we can do is to table it indefinitely."

"Any extravagance is up to the city commission and not the city manager," Commissioner H. B. Coburn said, adding that if any extravagance has been taken place, the commission needs investigating and not the city manager."

Mr. Playle then moved that the petition asking for Mr. Crews' removal be tabled indefinitely and all members voted yes.

It was announced during the meeting that two men, Leo Anson and A. T. Berger, have taken their names from the original petition.

Refuse to Buy Booklets
The commission also refused to pay \$127.50 for 500 copies of the 1928 Old Oregon Trail booklet, which is issued by Ryder Bros.

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KIDDLE GIVES \$500 TO FINE ARTS BUILDING

EUGENE, Ore., Nov. 24 (Special)—The drive for funds for the Fine Arts building, a structure that is to be a memorial to the late P. L. Campbell, president of the University of Oregon, is meeting with encouraging success.

Recent the Oregon Parent-Teacher association, in convention in La Grande, voted to raise \$500 for this purpose, and Fred Kiddle, of Island City, gave a \$500 memorial pledge in favor of his father, the late Edward E. Kiddle.

HOW MANY HOMES IN LA GRANDE?

People who have distributed food samples from house to house throughout the city say that between sixteen and eighteen hundred packages are required to do the job. The Observer distributed over 1700 copies in La Grande every evening through its carrier system and over 300 additional copies through the mail in the immediate vicinity of the city. Stages take bundles of papers in every direction each evening to smaller towns—and a total of over 3000 families in this trade area read The Observer regularly—the highest mark in the paper's history.

In no other way can a manufacturer or business man so completely cover this territory at such a low cost per reader as in The Observer's advertising columns. And there is no substitute for Observer reader-interest.

"Observer Advertising—A Merchandising Service"

Today Set Aside To Thank God, Children's View

Interesting Interviews on Today's Meaning Obtained from a Dozen La Grande Children.

Those long-faced pessimists who loudly decry the lack of Christian principles in the children of today would have had a sorry time of it if they had listened yesterday to a dozen or so healthy American youngsters who, in no uncertain terms, expressed their opinions on the meaning of Thanksgiving.

Selected at Random
Here are some of their opinions selected at random:

Wallace McChaffery, eight, says: "I think we ought to thank God on Thanksgiving day."

Ruth Stoddard, another eight-year-old, thinks first of the Pilgrims.

"We have a Thanksgiving dinner now because the Pilgrims did a long time ago," Ruth believes.

Six-year-old Barbara and Gertrude O'Brien, were too full of excitement over their first school party to have any very serious opinions.

"We're going to have popcorn and apples and teacher's going to tell stories and give us Indian hats or something," explain Bobby and Jerry, as the twins are better known.

"I think we should be thankful for everything on Thanksgiving day," was the expression of Verna Lee Sanford, eight, and a third grade student.

Clyde "Timmy" Metcalf: "Thanksgiving is to thank the Lord God, our Father in Heaven." A big

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Subscriptions To Red Cross Are About \$100

With only about \$100 in Red Cross memberships paid in since the beginning of the call to days ago Dr. Ray Murphy, chairman of the committee, yesterday made a request that all those who have been appointed solicitors for the various lodges and organizations report at once to him, or other members of the committee, so that a complete check may be made as soon as possible.

Plans were originally to complete the membership drive by Thanksgiving day, but because the subscription money has been coming in at such a slow rate the campaign will be continued until Dec. 1.

Only a few organizations have turned in complete reports, and a few memberships have been received by mail by the committee. The fund should total about \$100 when all is collected. It is said, about one-third of which is in the hands of the treasurer, Sherwood Williams, at present.

"It is everyone's business that they pay the one dollar membership," Dr. Murphy said, in urging that everyone turn in their membership money. "It is not up to one or two persons, or the committee, but all must help to make the membership drive what it should be."

Freshman Class Wins in Stunts

The freshman class won the annual inter-class stunt contest this year and, as a result, are leading in the year's point contest, according to announcement made at the pen assembly yesterday afternoon.

The stunt contest, as conducted throughout the year is determined by the activities of the classes in various fields. The seniors took second in the stunt contest, the juniors third and the sophomores last. The point contest tallies up in the same order, freshmen, seniors, juniors and sophomores.

CITY GIVES THANKS FOR HAPPY YEAR

Large Crowd Expected at Union Service at the Presbyterian Church

DINNERS UNITE MANY FAMILIES

Children of the Primary Grades Participate in Thanksgiving Parties, Mothers Visitors.

"The Pilgrim fathers did it, they made Thanksgiving Day"—for which the people of La Grande are especially thankful today, and—as the Pilgrims did on that first Thanksgiving day—will gather in several of the churches of the city to give thanks to the Maker of all things.

The largest crowd probably will gather at the First Presbyterian church where Thanksgiving services will be held under the direction of the La Grande Ministerial association, beginning at 10:30 o'clock. The Rev. R. E. Borden will lead the Thanksgiving message, and the Presbyterian church quartet, composed of Mrs. A. L. Richardson, Mrs. W. H. Robinson, Mrs. J. R. Dikins and E. D. Towler, will sing two numbers.

"O Lord, How Manifold Are Thy Works" by Maude and "Thou Will Keep Him in Perfect Peace" by the Rev. J. George Wats, pastor of the Presbyterian church, will preside over the service and Miss Edna Maguire will be at the pipe organ.

The Rev. L. H. Aves will read the proclamation, the Rev. Oliver Ridley will give the scripture reading.

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EASTERN OREGON PLANS FOR DAY

Pendleton to Have Union Services—Cove Churches Make Arrangements

PENDLETON, Nov. 24 (Special)—The Thanksgiving day program in Pendleton today will include union Thanksgiving services in the Presbyterian church in the morning and a football game on the Round-Up gridiron in the afternoon between the Pendleton High Buckaroos and the Baker high school gridiron.

The selection of the church and the minister to conduct the Thanksgiving union services was decided at the last meeting of the Pendleton Ministerial association. The special music and other parts of the program will be announced later in the week. The services will end promptly at 11:30 a. m. so as not to interfere with the preparations of the annual Thanksgiving dinner. Mr. Wire, said today.

The day has been proclaimed a

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Football Curtain Up For Last Time This Year; Union, La Grande Actors

Rarely in La Grande history does its high school football team come down to the last game of the season without winning a single game. Yet this is the situation that exists this year.

For this reason, if for no other one, La Grande's Tigers are determined to defeat Union's eleven this afternoon on the local gridiron. Union has played erratic football this fall, defeating strong teams and losing to teams about the same strength by unaccountable scores, but a victory over the Bobcats by any Eastern Oregon team is nothing to be sneezed at.

So, if the Tigers are victorious this afternoon, the season will have at least ended in a certain amount of glory.

On the other hand, Union is just as eager to defeat La Grande for the simple reason that this is the big game of the year to its players. A Union team might lose every other game during the season

Band, Boys' Glee Club Score At Arcade Concert

High School Entertainment Given Generous Applause—Proceeds to Aid Organization.

The La Grande high school band, in its debut before La Grande music lovers last night at the Arcade theater, scored decidedly. With an instrumentation of 40 pieces and directed by W. W. Nushbaum, musical director of the high school, it created a very favorable impression and gave promise of even greater success in future appearances.

The band, although furnishing the main part of a 30-minute program following the first showing of the film "The High School Hero," shared honors with the boys' glee club of the high school, which presented several pleasing numbers. Mr. Nushbaum is also director of the glee club.

The theater was crowded for the occasion and applause was very generous. Net proceeds of the evening's entertainment will be given by Meyers and Bowen, proprietors of the Arcade, for the purchase of music and other equipment for the band.

Members of the band follow: Clare Perkins, Marvin Mackey, Bernard Powell, Floyd Feik, Dell Burk, Cameron Miller, Stanley Zundel, Clark Ruckman, Kenneth Owen, William Miller, Roland Pierce, Ellis Watkins, Benjamin Osterling, Henry Culp, Cleland Wallinger, Arlo Noyes, Guy Andrews, Zina Zaugg, Isabel Symonds, Vernon DeLong, Adolph Siegrist, Dorothy Brownson, William Caldwell, Kathryn Metcalf, Mary Culp, Wayne Nushbaum, Max McMillan, Virgil Koehnsmeyer, Edwin Kiley, Glenn Henderson, Thomas Wallinger, Lee Johnson, Rulon Zaugg, Paul Bull, Harold Browning, Melvin Palmer, Vernon Wilson, Vernon Waite, George Harnden, Leiland Hale.

The high school boys' glee club consists of the following students: Guy Andrews, Tom Evans, Floyd Hager, Clare Thomas, Wayne Nushbaum, Carl Melnick, Rulon Zaugg, Melvin Palmer, Virgil Koehnsmeyer, Dell Burk, Cleland Wallinger, Donald Porsch, Henry Culp, Kenneth Owen, Norman Stung, Cecil Black, Robert Stoddard, Eugene Hubert, George Harnden, Harold Canfield, Jack Kinnard, Wilford Stoddard, Thomas Wallinger, Cameron Miller, Carl Stoddard, Edwin Briggs, Virgil Conley.

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11,000 ENTRIES IN CHICAGO SHOW

International Livestock Exposition to Open Saturday, November 26

CHICAGO, (AP)—American agriculture's greatest show and forum, the International Livestock exposition, will draw the restless hordes of 11,000 of the fine livestock produced on the American continent to Chicago Nov. 26 for a week of exhibition and competition.

From all sections of the country and Canada, farmers and stockmen will bring prize winning animals to compete in 1,000 contests for \$10,000 in prizes. Forty national farm organizations will hold their annual meetings during the exposition and in honor of the twenty-eighth anniversary of the show Chicago has lent every civic aid to provide activity and entertainment without stint.

Entries for the fortune in prizes at this year's exposition will represent 40 different breeds, according to R. H. Heide, secretary-manager of the affair. Animals exhibited at the Canadian Royal show in Toronto and the American Royal at Kansas City will be hurried to Chicago by special train.

One of the high lights of the exposition will be the selection on Nov. 29, by Walter Hagar, noted Scotch breeder, of the grand champion bull of the show.

Lieut. Arnold Caddy, president of the Australian Red Polled Breeders' association, will be another figure in the galaxy of international judges.

Judging contest for national honors will be conducted by teams of students representing 20 state agricultural colleges, who will take part in livestock, meat and crops judging competitions.

Festival Will Be Given Friday Night

A Thanksgiving festival will be given Friday evening, Nov. 25, by the children of the primary department of the second ward of the Latter Day Saints church here, at the church corner of X avenue and North Fifth street.

Through the courtesy of the Van Patten Lumber company a temporary stage has been installed for the occasion. The public is invited to attend. The festival is for the benefit of the church fund and the primary work.

THANKSGIVING AT GRANDPA'S



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Potato Crop Of Northwest Big, Hard to Market

Described by County Agent H. G. Avery as a very interesting and conclusive resume of the potato situation in the Pacific Northwest, the following summary of conditions given by R. L. Ringer at a recent meeting of the Pacific Northwest Potato conference in Spokane, is reprinted:

For 26 years the production of potatoes in the United States has averaged 3.6 bushels per capita. In 1922 the national average was 4.1 bushels and in the West was 4.2 bushels. All will recall that it was a disastrous year, coast to coast. The production per capita thereafter was:

Year	National	West
1923	3.7 bu.	3.3 bu.
1924	3.7 bu.	1.9 bu.
1925	3.8 bu.	3.4 bu.
1926	3.9 bu.	3.5 bu.
1927	3.9 bu.	4.7 bu.

The whole secret of our success or failure is wrapped up in these small figures. Twice in the past five years, we have been saved from warranted loss by the conditions in the East. That is, in 1923 the whole crop of the country was 3.7 bushels per capita. Low prices prevailed east of the Rocky mountains, but we of the West had only 2.2 bushels apiece. This is enough under the normal of 3.6 to give us a good movement all year at higher prices than prevailed in the East.

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Following the Idaho clash the Oregon roster resembled the casualty report of a day's doings at the front some 18 years ago. More cripples than well players were in evidence after that big Idaho machine had functioned. The Oregon State line was more than a little damaged with four regulars figuring in the leading injury roles. Badley and Ellers, guards, and Luce and Kent, tackles, were hurt.

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MOUNTAIN RESORT IS GAINING FAVOR

Forest Service Survey Shows Washington, Oregon Travel Is Heavy

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 24 (Special)—The outdoor public is covering more country, camping less, picnicking more, and using mountain resorts more than ever before, is the conclusion of U. S. forest officers, based on recreation figures just compiled in the Portland, Ore., office for Oregon and Washington.

The extent to which the national forests of these two states are used is shown in detailed reports submitted by the rangers each year. These reports show the class of visitors, whether summer home users, hotel and resort guests, campers, picnickers or transient motorists.

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Poultry Thieves Steal 1463 Fowls

WENDELL, Ida., Nov. 24 (Special)—There is nothing pleasanter or cheer about poultry thieves operating in the Wendell vicinity. Recently 1463 chickens were stolen from L. Bailey's flock of some 2500. The birds were presumably stolen from the roost and a truck was used to carry them away.

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GOVERNMENT MAY COLLECT 300 MILLION

Claims Against Prosperous Railroads Reach Staggering Figure

TO BE PRESENTED DURING NEXT YEAR

Law of 1920, Concerning Excess Earnings by Common Carriers, Will Be Basis.

By Clinton Coffin
(Associated Press Staff Writer)
WASHINGTON (AP)—Government claims against the most prosperous of American railroads for stupendous sums of money now are in course of preparation in the Interstate Commerce commission and will be presented for settlement during the coming year.

The commission proceedings constitute an endeavor to carry out the law of 1920, which provides for the recapture of excess earnings obtained by common carriers. If the government contentions, now carefully being shaped out of the morass of litigation and accountancy covering the subject, are sustained, federal revenues will be increased by \$300,000,000.

While the law has been on the books seven years, and the government claims under it are retroactive, the commission, the treasury and law officers have not been able until now to proceed in an effective way. Up to Sept. 30 of this year, the government had collected \$7,140,950 of the excess earnings claimed, and not a dollar of the amount had come from the great railroads whose earnings are really involved. Litigation and the natural obstacles arising in the enterprise combined to prevent more substantial attainment of government revenues in the field.

Some Have Paid
As the court decisions have slowly marked out the boundaries within which the government claims are rightful, a series of comparatively small railroads have given up the struggle and have undertaken payment. Among those which have contributed are the Duluth, Missabe and Northern, a steel corporation line, which is credited with producing more than half the entire total, or \$2,753,670. The Bessemer and Lake Erie, another steel company line, has paid in \$142,000, while the Detroit, Toledo and Iron, Henry Ford's railroad, has contributed \$229,000.

Also, one standard railroad, the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac has paid \$195,000. A host of tiny lines has made up the balance. Roughly, the government's \$7,000,000 of collections represents excess earnings from about 5600 miles of railroad out of the country's total of 247,000 miles of class I railroads in operation. If the property holds out for the entire railroad mileage of the country, the government will collect \$350,000,000 for excess earnings between 1920 and 1926, and annually thereafter still proceed to take proportionate sums.

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EARNINGS OF UTILITIES ON THE INCREASE

WASHINGTON (AP)—Net earnings of public utility companies, exclusive of telephone and telegraph concerns, seem to be on their way to a new high record.

In the first three quarters of this year they reached a total \$10,000,000 greater than for the entire year 1924 and almost twice the total for the entire year 1920. Similarly the net earnings monthly have been ranging \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000 greater than last year.

SALEM, Ore., Nov. 24 (AP)—The apportioned value of public utilities in Oregon or the property valuation on which they will be taxed the coming year on the 1927 tax roll is \$108,947,161.25, according to an announcement by the state tax office yesterday. This is an increase of \$7,932,166.59 over last year when the total was \$101,015,000.

