

LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)
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CITY OF LA GRANDE

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A NEW SONG—O sing unto the Lord a new song; sing unto
the Lord, all the earth. Psalm 98:1.

Again the Associated Press demonstrated its superiority
in news service. In La Grande The Observer was many hours
ahead of any other medium with authentic details of the cap-
ture. In the cities, Associated Press papers were many min-
utes ahead of all competition.

The two Pendleton officers, one a state and the other a
municipal employee, deserve praise for the vigilance that re-
sulted in Hickman's capture. Certainly they deserve the
major share of the reward offered. Many people contributed
to the success of the man-hunt and no small part was played
by the A. P. wire news of his progress around Seattle and
Portland. But the real job was done on the road east of
Echo by Lieullen and Gurdane. Theirs is the fame.

Seldom has the hunt for a murderer aroused such nation-
wide interest as the Hickman affair. The capture at
Echo yesterday by Pendleton officers caused more comment
on the Pacific coast than the death of a president. And peo-
ple generally take it for granted that he is guilty of the
complete crime in spite of his denial of the actual killing.
Most of the money was found in his possession—which would
hardly have been the case if someone else were equally re-
sponsible. He knows all details of the murder while con-
tending that the dismembered body was brought to him by
his accomplice. It doesn't look promising for Hickman's fu-
ture. Unless any other action would be, he can count him-
self fortunate if he lives to endure a trial in Los Angeles. The
nature of the crime, the fact that an innocent little girl
was the victim—everything bearing on the case is revolting.
An aroused public can be understood, if not justified, in assum-
ing Hickman's guilt and in desiring direct and immediate
punishment in kind.

MUNICIPAL MERGERS

What is a city—population or area? The question gains
interest from the current scramble for bigness. Many cities
are reaching out for larger area in order to take in more
population and so make a better showing. Some cities are
at a manifest disadvantage, as far as national prestige is
concerned, being left behind in the race for population merely
because they have kept their old corporate limits and not an-
nexed their suburbs.

Boston is a good example of this. She is credited with
787,000 people in 1925. These people cover an area of 27,000
acres, with hundreds of thousands just outside of her bound-
aries in separate municipalities. Los Angeles, on the other
hand, has taken in all the land in sight, and indeed some a lit-
tle beyond the horizon, having 250,000 acres for her 1,300,000
people to live on. Thus Los Angeles is spatially 60,000 acres
larger than New York, which has 6,000,000 people.

Detroit and Cleveland, competitors in population, being
respectfully fourth and fifth in the country, have their area
proportioned to their numerical size.

Pittsburg, left behind in the race, is now planning to forge
on toward the top with a grand coup. Her 1925 rating was
637,000 people, with 29,000 acres. A projected borough or-
ganization, taking in various outlying towns, is expected to
bring Pittsburg up at one jump to fourth place in the list,
passing the wonder cities of Los Angeles and Detroit and
ranking next after New York, Chicago and Philadelphia.
Cleveland may take similar action before long.

There's no easier way to gain population, unless a city is
built in a desert. Almost any town can do it. And as long
as mere numbers have the fictitious importance given them
by this generation, more and more of them will do it. We
are in for a period of municipal consolidation corresponding
to big business consolidation.

Marketing By Telephone

is satisfactory and pleasant with our
prompt service.
It does your many errands in a few
moments instead of hours.

Home Independent Telephone Co.

ABE MARTIN



The only combination in the in-
terest of the plain people is sauer-
kraut and spareribs. World peace
sounds like a mighty ridiculous un-
derstand like the average family man.

HICKMAN HAS INSANITY AS DEFENSE IDEA

(Continued from Page 1)

London given late yesterday explain-
ing that the letters written by Mar-
tin to her mother and "dear dad-
dy" were penned at the Bellevue
apartment, which he occupied on
Thursday night of last week.

The Rev. W. H. Robins, pastor of
the First Baptist church of Pen-
dleton, held a brief prayer service
in Hickman's cell this morning af-
ter Hickman had breakfast.

Hickman still looked tired, de-
spite his long night's sleep. He
asked that he be permitted to wash
his teeth.

Chief of Police Tom Gurdane
understandably strict guard over the
cell block in which Hickman is con-
fined, and permitted a newspaper
man and a few residents of Pendle-
ton a few moments' visit with the
prisoner.

When Mr. Robins called on Hick-
man to give him consolation if de-
sired, Hickman said he did not care
to discuss religion.

"It would be too much like being
a hypocrite at this time," he said.

Declares Innocence
Seated in his cell at the city jail
this morning William Edward
Hickman declared in the presence
of a crowd of newspaper men "I
know that I am not guilty of murder,
and I am perfectly calm."

He added those words as Chief
of Police Gurdane abruptly ended
a recital of the kidnapping of little
Marion Parker, Los Angeles girl,
Hickman has been reciting details of
the confession he gave following
his arrest yesterday and was telling
of taking Marion to a theater at
Alhambra Thursday night of last
week when he was stopped.

"That's enough," said the chief.
The recital was the second of
the morning which the chief per-
mitted.

Papa, Movie Men
A battery of cameras was admi-
tting to the cell room for flashlight
and the prisoner. The local
movie men were permitted to take
pictures of him in his cell.

During the film proceedings of
today the numerous cameras,
Hickman and suddenly in the door
of his cell. His features twitched
at once, betraying a consciousness
which he made an apparent effort
to disguise.

FATHER GIBBS STUCK
EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 23 (AP)—
Thomas Hickman, father of Wil-
liam Edward Hickman, confessed
kidnaping of Marion Parker, Los
Angeles school girl said today that
he would not go to his son held in
jail at Pendleton, Ore.

After a long and bitter fight
the confession made by Pendleton
authorities the father said that he
would continue his work here as a
railroad crane operator at the
Southern Pacific shops.

Still refusing today to publicize
any details told by his son of the
kidnaping and killing of the
little girl, the father waits for some
word from the law saying that it
is all a mistake; that he is not guilty
of the crime for which he is ac-
cused.

After newspapers had told that
Thomas Hickman said his son had
been arrested in Oregon and that
he had admitted the kidnapping, the
father looks down and says "I
don't believe that Edward did
this," he said and added:

"But if he is guilty of this hor-
rible crime, although he is my son
he should suffer the death pen-
alty."

Then in deprecating the father
sent a message to the boy plead-
ing:

"Let me know through the El
Paso Herald, your word of heart
in a word to his father (paraphrase
of Bible). If you are involved in
this crime, if you were there, God
forgive you and more mercy upon
the soul of your father, mother and
your brothers and sisters. But
Edward, now make no reply."

Thomas Hickman, who came to
El Paso after he had been a Mex-
ican citizen and had two chil-
dren as his wife, had a son and a
daughter. The Hickman mother
went about the house with a smile
unfettered by the grief gripping
her husband. She told me
that if she had two, she would
be a mother again. "More I'll tell
the children when they are old
enough to understand, I know."

GOGGLES AIDED HICKMAN CAPTORS

Prisoner, After Many
Hours' Sleep, Tells Why
He Failed to Fight

PENDLETON, Dec. 23 (AP)—
In his guarded cell at the jail,
where he slept solidly through the
night following his capture yester-
day, William E. Hickman, Los An-
geles kidnaper, stirred on his cot
at dawn and asked his guard the
time. Told it was 6:30 a. m., he
turned and fell back into a sound
sleep.

Outside, the streets were quiet,
a feathery snowfall had whitened
the sidewalks and pavements, few
persons were abroad, and news-
boys' cries alone broke the still-
ness. In the jail corridor half a
dozen men lounged.

Hickman's guards were fright-
ened in the early morning hours
when one of them reported that
he had watched the prisoner for
two solid hours without observing
a movement, or even hearing a
breath. Fearing he might possibly
have taken some concealed drug,
they roused him enough to deter-
mine he was alive.

They then combed through his
mass of hair to make sure that he
had secreted no pill there.

Quizzed by Captors.
Hickman was roused for break-
fast at 8:15. He said he was hun-
gry. His meal consisted of egg
sandwiches and coffee, which he
consumed with apparent relish.

Hickman was asked by his cap-
tors why he did not make a fight
when he was overhauled on the
Old Oregon Trail west of here yester-
day.

"I did not get a chance," said
Hickman to Chief of Police Tom
Gurdane.

Relating the details of the cap-
ture, Gurdane said that he and
State Traffic Officer Buck Lieullen
had driven to the top of a hill
near Echo when Lieullen re-
marked that he was dead for a
smoke.

"We can pull off the road here
and you can light your pipe," said
Gurdane. "If anyone comes along
we can see." Just as they did so
and Lieullen had his tobacco
ready, Gurdane spied a car ap-
proaching.

"It's a green Hudson," he re-
marked.

Goggles His Undoing
They had no move until the
car passed them. The driver of the
car wore dark goggles.

"Those goggles were his undo-
ing," said Gurdane. "I knew the
minute I saw them that they were
used as a disguise."

These officers, accustomed to
handling desperate characters of
the wide open spaces, did not take
any chance.

"We drove up alongside and I
covered Hickman with my gun as
we ran alone. I told him to stop or
I would shoot him. He stopped
and opened the door. I told him
to get out and put up his hands,
which he did. As he stepped out
of the car his shotgun fell on the
running board. The trigger was
cocked and it is a wonder that the
gun did not go off."

On the way to Pendleton Hick-
man talked freely of the kidnapping.

One of the most gruesome crimes
in criminal annals.

Even his confession printed in
morning papers was hesitant. In ef-
fect, to Mrs. Eva Hickman.

Then awful doubts assailed her
but she thrust them from her mind,
and sent a message of her belief in
him to the son, in jail at Pendle-
ton, Ore., charged with the kidnap-
ing and murder of Marion Parker
in Los Angeles.

Mrs. Langley is heralded as the
only grandmother in the House.
There, however, are several.

Slay Deer With Bow and Arrow



Like the early Indians Lucius Patchin (left) and his son Lucius Jr.,
of Detroit, went into the northern woods on a deer hunt, armed only
with six-foot bows and 28-inch arrows. They killed a buck apex. The
Patchins got lots of practice on the range of the Steep Hollow Arch-
ery club near Detroit.

Better Farm Homes Advocated To Help Stabilize Rural Life

MANHATTAN, Kansas (AP)—
"Comfortable homes, built to har-
monize with immediate surround-
ings, suggest observers at the Kan-
sas State Agricultural college, ex-
ercise a new and powerful influ-
ence upon American rural life."

Since colonial days, observers
have said, rural life has suffered
from the state of mind that led to
the saying, "Every farm in Ameri-
ca is for sale."

But analysts now have revealed
that the American farmer is com-
ing more and more to regard his
farm as a permanent home, and in
this connection the Kansas college
authorities point out the stabiliz-
ing influence of improved build-
ing. Architects, says H. E.

Wichers, instructor in rural archi-
tecture at the college, has an im-
portant influence on a woman's
and likewise a man's contentment
with life in an agricultural com-
munity.

"No wonder so many girls want
to go to the city," Mr. Wichers
observes. "A very large percent-
age of the farm homes lack that
impression of restfulness, of being
a part of their surroundings."

Mr. Wichers believes that a
farmer and his wife, instead of
hoping to own a fine home in town
when they are old enough to re-
tire, should enjoy a beautiful
home while they are young on the
farm.

In accordance with his views on
the subject, Mr. Wichers has de-
signed farm homes to fit into or-
chards, hills or prairies. His de-
signs include a colonial type of
house to stand on a flat hilltop,
with a roof line as a climax for the
sloping ground.

Another is a long house, inter-
dicted for the prairie, where scarcity
of trees and shrubs forbids the
use of strong vertical expression.
Still another is designed for a set-
ting in front of an orchard and be-
hind tall shade trees.

and rain falling on Friday in parts
of the county. This is the second
time during the month that the
thermometers have gone below the
zero mark, and on both occasions
the cold came suddenly. On Sat-
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zero was recorded here and at
various other points in this end
of the valley, while reports from
Enterprise state that eight degrees
below was the low mark for early
Saturday morning, while residents
of the county have on a number
of occasions in former years wit-
nessed much lower temperatures.
The cold of this spell was marked
by a peculiar stingingness, not
so noticeable at other times. A

Frozen Toes And
Ears Result In
Wallowa County

WALLOWA, Ore., Dec. 23 (AP)—
Frozen toes and ears bear wit-
ness to the severity of the cold
snap, which dropped suddenly onto
this section of the country Friday
night and lasting until well into
the day Sunday. Previous to the
drop in temperature the weather
had been quite mild, with snow

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Handkerchiefs for Remembrance!

To Delight
Every
Feminine
Fancy
Wonderful
Assortments
For Late
Shoppers



'Kerchiefs for Mother - Sister -
Daughter - Relative - Friend

20c to \$2.00

THE Gift that never loses its Christmas
flavor, that is never ostentatious, never
carries with it an undue sense of obligation.

Here one may choose handkerchiefs from
one of our most noted manufacturers. Fully
lacy ones of finest linens or tailored and
scaloped or exquisitely embroidered.

N. K. West & Co., Inc.
The Xmas Store For The Entire Family

fairly heavy blanket of snow now
covers the entire county, ranging
in depth from a few inches in the
lower sections to a depth of one
and a half and two feet in the
higher parts of the country.

The general freeze-up and cold-
er weather has greatly improved
conditions for work in the woods
according to reports from loggers.
A fleet of several large trucks are
busily engaged in hauling logs
from the scene of logging opera-
tion several miles up Bear Creek
to the local mill pond. The trucks
have been in use for some little
time, however, while the soft
weather continued it was diffi-
cult to do much toward hauling
heavy loads of logs, but at this
time all available trucks are busy
every day bringing in logs. A
number of teams and sleds are
also being used on the haul at this
time. The logging going on at this
point and at Water Canyon, is
about the extent of the woods work
in this part of the country, which
together with the shut-down of the
mill a few weeks ago, has put
many men out of jobs.

The president's message propos-
ed creation of a federal board to
administer a revolving fund to help
farm co-operatives. We hope the
revolving fund won't get any sink-
ing spells.

After reading the president's
message we have decided that our
New Year's resolution will be: to
good as long as it doesn't do any
harm.

Provincetown, Massachusetts, is the only
town in the United States that has
a town crier.

APPLICATION DENIED
SALEM, Ore., Dec. 23 (AP)—
An application of Charles J. Deak,
W. D. Inc., a remedy company of
Portland, to sell \$50,000 in pre-
ferred stock in Oregon has been de-
nied by Mark D. BeCallister, state
corporation commissioner. The re-
port of an investigation of the cor-
poration stated that "it appears that
the earnings have not been suffi-
cient to pay the dividends as they
fall due," and this report was the
basis for the denial.

COLONIAL
The Family Entertainment

Last Time Today
"A Poor Girl's
Romance"

A little slaver of the
slums and the soul of
a Cinderella.

By all means see it!

In The Shadow
of the Christmas Tree
Whitman's

The candy known and appreciated by all.
Boxes from 50c to \$7.50

RED CROSS DRUG STORE

Whitman's

The candy known and appreciated by all.
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