

2,175 PUPILS
ARE AGAIN IN
CITY SCHOOLSChildren Back at Their
Desks Following Mid-
Winter HolidaysSIX TEACHERS TO
RETURN SHORTLYWeather Conditions—"Ma-
roon" Educators—Mrs.
Alvin Hawk to Take
Mrs. Matthews' Post.

After a gay week of Christmas vacation that included coasting, skating, Christmas celebration and freedom from studies, some 2,175 school children of the city returned to school this morning with new resolutions and determination, and stronger than ever in numbers, for the enrollment was swelled today by several new registrations.

But not so with the teachers. When Superintendent J. T. Longfellow started "calling the roll" he found that six teachers of the schools in the city were absent. Weather conditions, resignations, and some illness accounts for the big gap in the faculties, several teachers being "marooned" in their home towns or cities where they spent the holidays and other being confined to their homes here by illness.

Miss Ethel Hickford, high school faculty member, wired the local officials this morning that she was marooned in Honolulu, where a peculiar freak of winter weather has practically tied up travel. Miss Blanche Hansen, who visited at her home at Portland, out of Walling, a teacher in Hilo, was another who was compelled to yield to weather elements and was unable to reach here.

Two Resignations.
The resignation of Miss Grace Ledridge, who taught at Greenwood, was accepted, and another was received from Mrs. Harvey Matthews, who before her marriage last Saturday was Miss Laura Thompson. Mrs. Matthews was an instructor in the high school. These presented Mrs. Hess Gellie, teacher at Central, and Mrs. Lowell Williamson, Greenwood instructor, from being present this morning. Mrs. Alvin Hawk has been engaged to handle Mrs. Matthews' classes, for the present at least. Mrs. E. E. Hurley is substituting for Mrs. Hickford, Mrs. Shelton for Mrs. Hansen, Mrs. Fred Curry for Miss Ledridge, Mrs. Myrtle Smith for Mrs. Gellie, and Mrs. Harry Cleaver for Mrs. Williamson.

This week will be spent in re-

(Continued on Page 5)

SECOND WARD
ENJOYS PARTY
AT NEW HALL

About 50 members of the second ward L. D. S. church enjoyed a reunion party last night that began when they gathered for supper in their new church and recreational building. A high spot of the evening was the ball game of the program, games and dancing ended.

Grant Bean, bishop of the ward, presided during the evening. The program which included musical and reading numbers, and also acted as toastmaster during the supper.

Following the program the second ward basketball team played the Mount Glen ward team in a close game which ended 8-5 in favor of the Mount Glen boys. The second ward boys played a short game, also. Dancing was enjoyed during the remainder of the evening. A high spot of the evening was the presentation of a lovely blanket to Bishop Bean by the relief society of the church. Mrs. Cook made the presentation, and Mr. Bean responded.

CARRYING
PART OF
THE LOAD

Securing a reader's attention and maintaining his interest is the chief requisite of successful advertising. If a merchant's message fails to do that, his money is lost as far as your response is concerned.

That's why a newspaper with adequate news service, established prestige, and obvious reader-interest is preferred in metropolitan cities—the news helps carry the responsibility of constantly interesting a great family of readers. In La Grande territory the same requirement is fulfilled by The Observer—and wire news is given. Observer readers many hours ahead of any other paper entering the territory. In no other way can an advertiser have the same day-after-day reader interest as an aid to his selling message.

"Observer Advertising—
A Merchandising Service"

Boy Is Injured
When Sled Hits
Parked MachineRichard Clay in Hospital
But His Recovery Is
Thought to Be Certain,
Physicians Say.

Richard Clay, La Grande boy, was seriously injured early last night in a tralling accident. Although he is in the Grande Ronde hospital his recovery is regarded as certain. He suffered a bruised back and torn ear.

According to a report made to the police, a car driven by Melvin Palmer and with three sleds attached behind, attempted to pass a parked Mr. Emily Dairy company car. The sled on which young Clay was riding did not swerve with the car and smashed into the parked machine, police say. The accident occurred near the A. J. Bishop home on Spruce, north of Z.

Police chief Clint Haynes, who several days ago asked that no tralling take place in the city limits, announced today that the next instance of tralling brought to his attention will be prosecuted and the offenders punished.

Indoor Concert
Jan. 8 Promises
To Excel Others

The first indoor concert of the season, to be given by the municipal band at the Arcade theater Saturday afternoon, Jan. 8 at 4 o'clock will feature a program of unusual merit, according to an announcement by Director Loney.

Much care has been taken with the program and extra rehearsals have been held with a view to presenting an entertainment that will exceed anything heretofore attempted by the band.

Several New Members.
Quite a number of new faces will appear with the band at this concert and an earnest endeavor is being made to build up the instrumentation of the band so that it will contain all necessary instruments for the production of proper color so essential to a well-balanced concert band.

As announced previously, the program this winter will feature a good many novelties, solos, trios, duets, descriptive numbers, etc., so that the programs should be enjoyed by all. Each program rendered will, however, include some of the more difficult and elaborate selections written for bands.

Sponsored by City.
Due to the illness of the director and the coming on of the holiday season, this will be the first appearance, in concert, of the band for some time, and a capacity house will no doubt greet this first concert. These concerts are sponsored by the city of La Grande and the theater is donated for the concert by Meyers and Bowen.

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Sash and Door
Factory To Be
Opened in City

A sash and door factory will be opened here within the next six weeks in connection with the Pratt Lumber company, Claude C. Pratt announced this morning. The new business will be operated by Don Miller, of Spokane, Wash., who has had experience in one of the largest detail mill work shops in the west and has ample capital to handle the business, Mr. Pratt announced.

Some of the machinery for the factory is already here and more is en route to this city. Unfinished material has also been ordered and will soon begin to come in.

Mr. Pratt believes that there has been a need for a factory of this kind in La Grande for some time, declaring that it will increase the city's payroll, besides making it possible to get quick service on work of this kind.

Two Cars Damaged
In Collision Here

Two cars, one driven by E. H. Appleby and the other by E. W. Hickman, collided at the intersection of First and Spring streets at 9:25 o'clock last night, the Appleby machine striking the Hickman car on the side. Both cars were damaged to some extent, the Hickman car, however, suffering the most.

Mrs. Hickman, who was sitting in the back seat, was overcome by the shock but was not injured. She recovered shortly afterwards.

HICKMAN PLEADS INSANITY

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 3 (AP)—William Edward Hickman, pleaded not guilty to kidnapping and murder by reason of insanity in court here today.

Hickman's trial was set for Jan. 25. His attorney asked for 25 days delay to develop proof of insanity.

CONFESSES
AXE MURDER
TO OFFICERSOrville Davis, Klamath In-
dian, First Makes Plea
of Self DefenseNEW YEAR'S ROW
CAUSE OF CRIMELawrence Walker, Victim,
Died a Few Hours After
Receiving Fractures to
His Skull.

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Jan. 3 (AP)—Orville Davis, 24-year-old Klamath Indian, early this morning confessed to murdering Lawrence Walker, 25, Indian, in Walker's home near Beatty shortly before noon yesterday.

After steadfastly maintaining he killed Walker in self-defense, Davis finally broke down early this morning under insistent questioning of federal operatives.

In a signed confession he stated he crawled through a window in Walker's home and struck twice at Walker sleeping in bed, with the blunt end of an axe. Walker died last night at 7:15.

Result of Party.
According to Davis' confession, he and Walker had had an altercation during a New Year's party. Smiling under the feud with his erstwhile friend, Davis decided yesterday morning to kill him.

He went to Walker's home and ascertained that Walker was asleep. Quietly opening the window he slipped inside, axe in hand, first pushing aside a book case.

Entering Walker's room, he saw him sleeping on the bed. Twice the axe rose and twice it fell. Each blow caused a severe fracture of the skull.

Davis, who is regarded as a "tough guy" in the Beatty section, gave himself up to Deputy Sheriff Charles Taylor, Beatty, immediately after mortally wounding Walker. He freely admitted striking Walker but claimed that he acted in self-defense. He said that he and Walker had met in Walker's yard between the woodshed and barn and that Walker had pulled out a knife and started toward him, that he had grabbed an axe and as Walker rushed struck twice, both blows striking the head.

Walker in Bed.
When authorities investigated they found Walker in bed, in a

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CHRISTMAS SEAL
SALE ABOUT \$600Total of \$550.01 on Hand
with Several Towns Yet
to Make Report

The Union county's annual Christmas seal sale will add about \$600 to the state's tuberculosis fund, was the opinion expressed this morning by Mrs. Charles Gump, county chairman in charge of the sale. So far she has received \$125 from the towns and communities outside of La Grande, but reports have not yet been received from many.

All reports from the sale within La Grande are in the hands of the chairman, Mrs. Evelyn Hearnshaw, and the total amounts to \$425.01, which brings the total for the county so far to \$550.01.

North Powder has not yet been heard from, and a considerable amount is expected from there, the chairman having re-ordered stamps twice after the original quota was sent out. Many of the rural school districts have not yet been heard from, and Mrs. Gump urges that they respond as quickly as possible so that a complete report will be available by the end of this week. Reports from Tulelake, Medford Springs, Palmer Junction, Starkey and Island City are not yet in.

O.W. Accommodates
Wallowa Teachers

A special accommodation was made by the O.W. here yesterday afternoon when the local branch line train made an extra trip to Joseph in order to get 14 Wallowa county school teachers, who had missed the morning train, because of the disrupted schedule, home in time for regular school classes today.

The branch line train went out on schedule at 10:19 o'clock to the morning, using the old engine instead of the motor car which was waiting for train No. 24, eastbound from Portland, which arrived about the middle of the afternoon. Train No. 24 was late again today and was scheduled to arrive about 2:30 this afternoon.

The service, explained Jay Keeney, station agent, was made for the express accommodation of the teachers.

Silver Thaw Is
Experienced In
Western OregonHighway Travel Still Per-
ilous—Astoria Emerges
Today from 36 Hours of
Isolation.

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 3. (AP)—A drizzle of rain on top of crusty snow, produced silver thaw conditions in some sections in this vicinity this morning, while in others the rain and moderate temperature were reducing snow to slush. In districts exposed to a cold wind the rain froze on wires and trees and shrubbery.

Railroad and wire communications were rapidly being restored to normal today. Highway traffic was perilous, but buses were operating on most routes. The upper Columbia River highway between Corbett and Mitchell Point tunnel was snow and ice bound, as a result of an extremely severe blizzard which raged all yesterday. The Pacific highway was open, and the lower Columbia highway was dangerous due to ice. In Portland hundreds of men with trucks were continuing the work of snow removal. The Portland Electric Power company was running most of its lines practically on schedule today.

Expect Warmer Weather.
The weather bureau held out promise of rising temperature with southeast winds and continued rain. The temperature here at 5:30 a. m. today was 32, hovering on the verge of freezing. This condition was responsible for the silver thaw that gripped parts of Portland and surrounding territory.

Astoria emerged late yesterday from a period of 36 hours isolation, during which a silver thaw gripped the city and cut communications. Ships coming up the Columbia river to Portland became coated with silvery ice.

The Union Pacific railroad expected today to be able to clear away the wreck that blocked the line between the woodshed and barn and that Walker had pulled out a knife and started toward him, that he had grabbed an axe and as Walker rushed struck twice, both blows striking the head.

**L. S. Weeks Will
Take Secretary
Post for Month**
The Union county chamber of commerce board of directors today at noon authorized the employing of L. S. Weeks as temporary secretary of the chamber for a period of one month, to allow the board more time to investigate a number of applications for the position, when a luncheon meeting was held at the Sommer hotel. The board is considering several applications and is making a number of investigations to find a suitable man for the position which was left vacant by the resignation of Earl C. Reynolds, and hopes to decide upon a suitable secretary within the next two or three weeks.

Mr. Weeks has very kindly consented to take over the management of the office for one month until a permanent secretary is employed. He will be assisted in the office by Miss Bernice Hartenbauer, and will work under the direction of H. E. Coolidge, president of the chamber, and the board of directors.

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Police Called Out to Quiet Ghosts

Nocturnal Visitor Proves Persistent

Has La Grande a haunted house? Many believe so—but the police, when questioned by an eager reporter of The Observer, smile, sometimes chuckle, and express anything but concern about the alleged spiritual visitations.

"Spooks?" Maybe a loose board, or rats, or cats, or something of the sort," Police Chief Clint Haynes cheerfully reports. At any rate, it is easy to see that he isn't worrying about phantoms or white-sheeted nocturnal visitors.

"Maybe it's the spirit of some door-knocking peddler practicing unearthly proclivities," suggests another.

Officers Unworried

The police force and the few sheriff's officers that have investigated take the whole affair as a joke, even though some 150 to 200 persons visited the house at 2261 North Fir street that has suddenly gained notoriety.

It all began last Friday night, when the police were summoned to locate a "noise." The police chief says that the call came from the house but is uncertain who made it. The police investigated the matter, returned to the station, and reported that the noise could not be located.

Again on Saturday night the same thing happened with the same results.

The "hant" whatever or whoever it was, must have been enjoying itself immensely.

Again it returned—and again.

Last night, Police Chief Haynes himself decided to visit the scene.

NATION HELD
IN CLUTCH OF
FRIGID WAVESixty Deaths Result from
Sub-Normal Tempera-
tures in the U. S.SOUTH COLDEST
IN 59 SEASONSSome Relief Predicted by
Weather Bureau—East-
ern Oregon Weather Is
Comparatively Warm.

While the greater part of the nation is suffering from extreme cold weather, the minimum in La Grande last night was 32 above. At 9:30 o'clock this morning the mercury had climbed to 40 above. The warmer weather has resulted in considerable melting of the snow, making sidewalks and streets seas of slush.

60 DEATHS OVER NATION.
CHICAGO, Jan. 3 (AP)—With sub-normal weather prevailing in virtually every section of the United States, the weather bureau officials predicted slightly higher temperatures in most places, but additional snow in others for today.

Snow flurries were promised for the Great Lakes section with rising temperatures elsewhere. The line of zero temperature last night extended southward to Central Illinois, while the lowest temperature in the United States was reported at Hayre, Mont., where it was 20 degrees below.

Mild weather prevailed in California, Nevada, Arizona and Southern Idaho, with the maximum temperature at 75 at Los Angeles. The extreme southern section of Florida and California were the only places enjoying normal weather.

Records Shattered.
Records of 59 years standing were shattered in many southern cities, where temperatures were even lower than in New England. Suffering from exposure was acute. Henderson, N. C., was 7 degrees below zero, the coldest since 1888. Asheville, N. C., was 4 below; Louisville, Ky., 3 below; and Bristol, Tenn., 2 below.

Snow covered the northern and central sections, while rain, sleet or snow was general in the Pacific northwest.

Temperatures in Chicago ranged from six below early yesterday to five above at midday.

Deaths here indirectly due to cold reached 22, while the total for the country was above 60.

The weather was blamed for a train wreck near Atlanta, Ga., in which three were killed and 12 injured, and for another in Mount Vernon, Ill., in which the engineer was killed. Two other wrecks, each involving three trucks, occurred near Chicago over the weekend, and caused the deaths of three persons and severe injuries to more than 20 others.

Schools were closed in many places and some cities in Central Illinois feared a milk shortage unless the weather moderated soon.

COLD MODERATING.
NEW YORK, Jan. 3 (AP)—A sudden cold wave, which arrived

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Believes Russia
Has Flax Corner

LONDON, Jan. 3. (AP)—Linen soon will cost more because Russia has cornered the flax market thinks Miss Madge Conley, who receives 1909 pounds sterling a year as advertising expert of the Evening Standard.

In a broadcast talk advising women to take advantage of January sales, she said: "The reason for the increase in the cost of linen is a shortage of flax. Great quantities come from Russia and the soviet is only letting out a little at a time so as to keep prices up."

Salem Fire Loss
Estimated \$125,000

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 3. (AP)—Fire late yesterday destroyed the Lampert Building and a stock of second hand furniture belonging to H. L. Stiff Furniture company and damaged the stock and fixtures of three other tenants of the building. The loss was estimated at \$125,000. The fire was believed to have started from spontaneous combustion due to oily rags.

HICKMAN'S
ATTORNEY

Jerome Watson, young Kansas City lawyer, will attempt to establish the insanity of the kidnap-slayer of little Marian Parker.

LINDBERGH SAFE
IN TEGUCIGALPAAmerican Flier Reaches
Honduras Capital from
San Salvador Today

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras, Jan. 3. (AP)—Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh completed the fourth leg of his Central American tour today landing safely at the aviation field here from San Salvador at 1:55 p. m. central standard time.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3. (AP)—The national radio announced today that Col. Charles A. Lindbergh hoped off from San Salvador for Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras at 11:45 a. m. central standard time.

The 140-mile hop to the Honduran capital carried the American flier here close to the scene of recent fighting in Nicaragua between American marines and rebel forces since Tegucigalpa is only about 25 miles from the Nicaraguan border in the neighborhood of which the fighting is going on.

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras, Jan. 3. (AP)—The Stars and Stripes adorned the streets of the capital of Honduras today as the inhabitants scanned the sky for the approach of the Lone Eagle over the mountains.

In honor of the coming of Col. Charles A. Lindbergh electric signs flashed their welcome in English saying "Welcome Lindbergh."

The papers published many pictures and much biographical data on the flier.

Renowned pilot called Lindbergh "the man who out-flew the American eagle."

MALE MEMBERS
OF IRAK TRIBE
ARE MURDERED

BAGDAD, Iraq, Jan. 3. (AP)—Every male member of one of the Irak tribes, including even male babies, has been slain by Shiek Faisal Ed Dowish and his raiders, advices reaching here today. Thousands of cattle were carried off. A miserable remnant of women was left to starve.

Faisal Ed Dowish was one of the chieftains of Ibn Saud, king of Jajah, but now is apparently in revolt against the king.

Traffic Officer Claude Cooper is equally as sincere in the belief that the "hant" isn't serious. He, too, is large and well uniformed.

Holiday Liquor
Deaths Ten Less

NEW YORK, Jan. 3. (AP)—A check up by police today showed that the holiday death toll from alcoholism this year was ten less than during the same period last year. Thirty-five deaths from alcoholism occurred this year between Christmas and New Year's.

Mercury Down In
Eugene; River Up

EUGENE, Ore., Jan. 3. (AP)—Five nights of freezing weather was unbroken Monday night when the mercury in the thermometer dropped again to the 22 degree mark.

Thirty-two degrees was registered Sunday night and the three nights previous to that recorded temperatures of 29, 22 and 29 degrees.

The day-times have been slightly warmer and the Willamette river of three other tenants of the building. The loss was estimated at \$125,000. The fire was believed to have started from spontaneous combustion due to oily rags.

Coolidge Thinks
Prosperous Year
In Store in U. S.Hopeful Attitude Held by
Nation's Chief—New
Methods Are Bringing
America New Era

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3. (AP)—President Coolidge believes the United States has every reason to look forward to a prosperous year. Reports which have reached the White House, it was said there today, have borne out this hopeful attitude.

The president has noted a general improvement in employment during the past few weeks, the tendency on the part of railroads to purchase more equipment, acceleration in the automotive industry and a plentiful supply of credit with the always accompanying reasonably low interest rates. This, Mr. Coolidge feels, has placed industry and commerce in a position of adequately financing any expansion it has in mind.

Wage Conditions Good.
The general condition of wages, in the president's opinion, appeared to be the highest in some 20 years, and it was said at the White House that Mr. Coolidge saw no reason to believe that there should be any material change in the near future.

The president believes that new methods of production and distribution are turning the United States to a new era similar to the change that was noted several generations ago when the factory system was adopted.

Just as the change to the factory system from old-fashioned methods of hand and household production brought a greater distribution of the luxuries of life to the people of the world, the president feels that the modern methods of mass production and the economical methods of transportation and distribution are destined to diffuse them to a great many more people.

This change that has come to industry and commerce in the United States will necessitate a difference of policy toward economic development, Mr. Coolidge believes, and he is of the opinion that its final solution will mean the general lifting of the scale of life for all of the people.

Fireman, Injured
In U. P. Wreck At
Oneonta, Passes

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 3. (AP)—Fred C. Warnke, Union Pacific fireman injured Sunday in the wreck of the Oregon Trail express at Oneonta, died early today.

He suffered a fractured skull and other injuries in the wreck and had been kept in a car at the scene of the wreck, under medical attention. Owing to the snow blockade it was impossible to move him.

Charles E. Theobald, engineer of the leading engine of the train, who also was injured, was recovering today.

Crews of the Union Pacific were bucking snowdrifts along the line today, to reach the wreck in order to clear the track. They were balked yesterday by a severe blizzard which piled snow on the derailed engines and cars faster than the men could remove it.

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MARINES TO
BOMB REBELS
IN NICARAGUAAviators Will Make At-
tempt to Drive Sandino
From ForestsAMERICANS DIG
IN AT QUILALIVarious Columns of
Fighting Men Will Con-
centrate There Before
Next Offensive.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3. (AP)—A formal statement declaring the intention of the United States to cooperate fully and effectively with the Nicaraguan constabulary in establishing order in that country was issued by the state department today in explanation of many department orders dispatching 1000 additional marines to Nicaragua.

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Jan. 3. (AP)—The United States marine air forces are preparing to bomb the Sandino rebels, who were driven into the forests by marines and national guardsmen in the recent engagements around Quilali.

Five bombing planes in command of Major R. E. Rowell will undertake this task. Other planes have already dropped bombs on groups of rebels, but the casualties have not been ascertained, as the planes returned immediately to their base.

All of the patrols sent out from Telapene and Ocotal have reached Quilali, and the garrison, now held by machines and guardsmen, has ample supplies of food, medicines and ammunition. The medical supplies were brought to Quilali yesterday, and all the wounded have been cared for.

Rebels Under Cover.
The air attacks were carried out in conjunction with columns advancing toward Quilali, and the rebel forces kept well under cover, fearing to come into the open.