

CITY
EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER
OREGON: Unsettled east, prob-
ably rain west portion tonight and
Thursday. Moderate temperature.
Fresh southeast winds.

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LA GRANDE, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1928.

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SHERIFF AND
DEPUTY FIND
LARGE STILLBreshears and Klingham-
mer Discover 150-Gallon
Plant North of ElginARREST MEN ON
LIQUOR CHARGEAbility to Travel on Skis
Enabled Officers to
Reach Destination De-
spite Snowy Trails.

Sheriff Jesse Breshears and Deputy H. A. Klinghammer, in their second raid of this kind in a month, confiscated one of the largest stills ever taken in this county last night when they traveled on skis in darkness for four miles to a point 10 miles north of Elgin. The still had a capacity of 150 gallons and was second in size only to the 187-gallon one taken only this summer. Besides the still the sheriff says he confiscated 400 gallons of mash, held in eight 50-gallon barrels, a pint of liquor, and some equipment.

A. E. McClellan, who gave his age as 27, and Jake Thomas, 21, both residents of Elgin, were arrested. They are being held at the county jail today and were to be arraigned, it was said, some time this afternoon on charges of possession of a still.

Skills Necessary
The sheriff and Mr. Klinghammer left La Grande about 6 o'clock last night, going to Elgin, and from there on to a point north of Elgin on the Thomas place. The last four miles of their journey they made through heavy snow.

Incidentally, it is believed that the two "set a style" for officers in traveling the distance with skis, a method of travel that is hardly common here as a sport and certainly unusual in making still raids.

Sled Also Figures
Following the arrest of McClellan and Thomas, the sheriff remained with them while Mr. Klinghammer retraced his steps and obtained a sled with which he drove back on a mountain road. The confiscated still and mash were then brought into La Grande, and are being held for evidence. Mr. Klinghammer and Mr. Breshears returned here at about 10 o'clock this morning.

CLUB VIOLIN
QUARTET WILL
PLAY FRIDAY

A program of unusual interest to La Grande music lovers will be given Friday evening in the ballroom of the La Grande hotel, when the Neighborhood club violin quartet, which consists of Mrs. Leo F. Miller, Mrs. Audner Playe, Mrs. Roy A. Parnam and Mrs. Emmett Smith, will appear in concert, assisted by Earle Denham, dramatic tenor, of Baker. Mrs. George S. Birnie will be the piano accompanist.

This program will be the first of its kind to be presented here and is attracting considerable attention. All members of the quartet are known to be fine violinists.

Earle Denham, of Baker, has been heard here on several occasions and La Grande audiences are always eager to hear him again.

A large committee is selling tickets for the concert, which are also on sale at Adler's Music store. Many tickets are reported to have been sold so far, with the concert yet two days away.

MORE
AGGRESSIVE
SALESMANSHIP

Business volume has long since passed the point where it can be anticipated without great effort or serious planning. You no longer spend your money in a store simply because it is located in the business district and has goods for sale.

Business growth, now more than ever before, depends greatly on more aggressive salesmanship. Which means knowledge of the market, intelligently planned advertising to reach the buyers of that market at the lowest possible cost, and trained, experienced salesmanship and service for these customers when they are finally attracted to the store or shop. In the La Grande territory, The Observer provides complete coverage of this market. The business firms which will enjoy greatest business growth in 1928 will be aggressive Observer advertisers.

"Observer Advertising—
A Merchandising Service"

Scouts of City
Celebrate Year
Of Active WorkOrganization Has Growth
of 170 in La Grande—
Summer Camp One of
Season's Features.

Scouting in La Grande is one year old today. Just a year ago E. Russell Scott arrived in this city and started work as scout executive of the Eastern Oregon Tri-county council organizing boy scout troops, enlisting scout masters and selling the idea of scouting generally. And today the council—which has dropped the "Tri-county" having added Grant county to Union, Wallowa and Baker, which originally comprised the council—has 26 boy scout troops which are made up of 487 boys.

Of this number there are 170 boy scouts in La Grande alone, with more registered who are not yet ready to pass the tenderfoot tests which are necessary to become a scout. When the work was started in La Grande a year ago there were 25 boy scouts here with one troop—sponsored by the First Presbyterian church, registered with national headquarters, and today there are eight troops all registered in the national office.

417 New Scouts

There were 70 boy scouts in the council a year ago and since that time 417 new scouts have been enrolled. Besides interesting many persons in scouting 26 men—18 of which are college men—have been enlisted as scout masters.

The summer camp last summer was probably the biggest thing in scouting during the year, 121 different boys attending the camp, 34

(Continued on Page 5)

ROTARIANS HEAR
SEVERAL TALKSLuncheon Program Today
One of Best in Several
Months, It Is Said

Members of the La Grande Rotary club keenly enjoyed an excellent program at their weekly luncheon at the La Grande hotel today at noon, declared by many to be the best in several months.

Dr. Ray Murphy read a paper dealing with the opportunities and responsibilities of Rotary and of individual members in community service.

S. D. Crowe, chairman of the vocational service committee, introduced G. S. Birnie, who read a paper on competitive relations and Rotary ideals and ethics. In the course of his talk, he called upon Fred R. Curry to tell a direct story to illustrate a point and Mr. Curry's story added much to the entertainment and appreciation.

This was followed by a paper by Mr. Crowe dealing with vocational service, as interpreted by acquaintance and friendship in Rotary.

Howard Stoddard, with the American Exchange and Irving's Trust company bank of New York, was called upon for an impromptu talk and made an excellent impression with his remarks on tolerance as he had experienced it in social and business contacts. In the east, Mr. Stoddard is in the west on a business trip and is visiting relatives in La Grande. He was a guest today of his brother, Elmer I. Stoddard.

Legionnaires Pay
Visit To Wallowa

A delegation of American Legion members from the local post, who assisted in the installation of the officers of Crews post of the coming year, Otto Palmer, department commander of this city, conducted the installation ceremony. Besides the seating of officers several other business matters of importance were discussed during the evening. With Mr. Palmer were E. C. Ayres, adjutant of the local post, and R. V. Coplin and Harley Richardson, members of the executive board.

Woodmen Install
At Annual Meet

T. Hesse was installed as council commander of the Woodmen of the World here when that lodge held its annual installation meeting at Elgin's hall last night, with a good turn out of members witnessing the ceremonies and enjoying the social hour which followed. Paul Howe was installed adviser. Lieutenant Art Huff, banker, W. E. Ordway, secretary, G. W. Nelson, waldman, F. M. Barrie, secretary, Joe Bantam, manager (new); Z. Lilly and Ed Stuart, managers (old over). The past council commander installed was Scott Buntin. R. J. Kitchen is clerk for the organization. Refreshments were served by the wives following the lodge meeting.

RAINFALL IN
1927 HIGHER
THAN NORMALLa Grande Precipitation
7.33 Inches More Than
Five-Year Average'PROPHET' REBUKED
BY WEATHER HERELong-Distance Forecaster
Who Startled Country,
Wrong on Two Points
in Union County.

A certain long-distance weather forecaster who alarmed the United States to a certain extent more than a year ago when he predicted that 1927 would be a cold, dry year, taking the country as a whole, is now rebuked—by actual figures.

For example, the United States government weather bureau, after a careful check of the entire country, finds that over 50 per cent of the continental United States, from coast to coast, and from the Gulf of Mexico to the Arctic Ocean, has received more than normal precipitation for 1927. In fact, the precipitation for 1927 in the United States was above normal over most of the country, and was unusually plentiful over the great interior agricultural districts, while the growing season, on the whole, was prolonged and favorable, being longer than normal practically everywhere.

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Year-For-From Dry Here
Applying locally, the long-distance forecast of a dry year was about as wrong as it could be. As a matter of fact and figures, La Grande had 7.33 more inches of rainfall in 1927 than the five-year average for 1922 to 1926, inclusive. To express it mildly, there was considerable dampness.

As for the cold wave, La Grande may have had a slightly colder year than on the average or it may not have—this matter has not yet been checked by the local branch of the weather bureau, which is conducted in the fire department office.

La Grande, however, had a long growing season, as did most of the rest of the country. So the long-distance weather forecaster was at least two-thirds wrong, and if the 1927 check should prove La Grande had a warmer than normal year, which it may not, he would be 100 per cent wrong.

Especially was he wrong in ref-

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Willamette Hoop
Team Will Play
Here on Feb. 11

What promises to be one of the most interesting basketball games that will be played here during the season has been scheduled between Willamette university and the first ward M. L. A. team, which will play here Feb. 11 at the M. L. A. recreational hall. This was learned here today when L. C. Stockdale, announced the completion of arrangements which have been under way for some time, with Charles Reynolds handling negotiations locally.

The Willamette team has a game scheduled at the time with the University of Idaho at Caldwell and will stop here en route. It is understood that the game which they will play with the M. L. A. team here will be their only stop on the trip. "Spec" Keene, the Willamette coach, is well known here, having made his home here one summer, and interested in the game is heightened by this fact. The fact that one of the Willamette players is a brother of Huber, also will add to the interest in the game.

Mr. Stockdale this morning expressed the satisfaction of the first ward in being able to secure such a game.

Tigers Beaten At Union in Close
Contest—Final Score 22 to 18

The Tigers dropped another game last night when they played Union in the Union gymnasium. The final score was 22 to 18, a closely fought battle. A few days ago the Union team held its annual installation meeting at Elgin's hall last night, with a good turn out of members witnessing the ceremonies and enjoying the social hour which followed. Paul Howe was installed adviser. Lieutenant Art Huff, banker, W. E. Ordway, secretary, G. W. Nelson, waldman, F. M. Barrie, secretary, Joe Bantam, manager (new); Z. Lilly and Ed Stuart, managers (old over). The past council commander installed was Scott Buntin. R. J. Kitchen is clerk for the organization. Refreshments were served by the wives following the lodge meeting.

Abducts Pastor
But He Refuses
To Marry CoupleLos Angeles Baptist Min-
ister Strung Up by His
Thumbs by Unknown
Captors, He Declares.

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 25 (AP)—The Rev. E. W. Webb, pastor of the Hoover Street Baptist church, today said that he had no intention of requesting a formal police complaint against the men who he alleges abducted him last Sunday night and attempted to torture him into performing a wedding ceremony over one of their number and a girl who was gagged and bound in a chair. "My story sounds too fishy for anyone to believe, in spite of its reality," he said.

According to the minister, he was approached, while taking a stroll after his church services, by a man who alighted from an automobile and told him that some one was in trouble and needed him. The minister entered the car, which contained four or five persons and was driven to a large, comfortably furnished house the location of which the pastor can not recall.

Six men and three women were in the house. The minister said: "They appeared to be respectable people and they did not appear to me to have been drinking." He then saw a young girl, whom he described as beautiful and 24 years old, gagged and lashed to a chair.

Strung by Thumbs
He was then ordered to perform a marriage ceremony between the girl and one of the men. He refused and was strung by the thumbs, the cords being drawn over his head in an archway between the rooms.

He was let down and again refused to perform the ceremony, and was again strung up. He believes he fainted from the pain and was unconscious until he found himself sitting on the curb some blocks away from his boarding place with a note in his hand reading:

"You are a man all right, but keep your eyes open." The note, said the minister, was signed "A well wisher."

ANDY COE FREED
BY LOCAL COURTEvidence Insufficient to
Connect Him with Death
of John Mayfield

Andy Coe, who has been held in the county jail here since Dec. 29 on an open charge in connection with the John Mayfield murder, was released yesterday afternoon by Judge Hugh E. Brady, after a preliminary hearing was held in the justice court and it was found that evidence was insufficient to hold him over until the grand jury meets.

A report from Robert H. Craddock, of Portland, expert on guns, showed that the Coe rifle had not been shot for weeks and that the bullet which killed Mayfield could not have been fired from that gun. Mr. Coe's rifle, which was found here today when L. C. Stockdale, announced the completion of arrangements which have been under way for some time, with Charles Reynolds handling negotiations locally.

Other evidence given at the hearing differed little from the evidence given at the grand jury's inquest. John Mayfield was killed at about 3 o'clock in the morning Dec. 25 at the Coe home at Imbler where he had been staying. He was shot through the head with a rifle, a hole through the glass of a glass pane in the front door indicating that the shot may have been fired from outside of the house, piercing the glass and then hitting Mayfield, who was sleeping in the front room of the Coe home.

Further investigation of the murder will be made, District Attorney Carl Helm, announced this morning. No other clues have developed so far, but the investigation will continue.

Cattle Industry
Paid Profits In
1927, Brite Says

EL PASO, Tex., Jan. 25 (AP)—The annual convention of the American National Livestock association opened here this morning with a large attendance from southwestern states. The feature of the session was the annual address of L. C. Brite, of Marfa, Tex., president of the association. "Liquidation of cattle, which has been going on since 1926 is over," Mr. Brite said, "and the present supply is sufficient for domestic needs. Prices during 1927 were satisfactory to stockmen and yielded a good profit."

In reviewing the livestock situation of the last six years, Mr. Brite said that the year 1927 was the only one to show a profit. "Cattlemen generally enjoyed a fair and reasonable return on their investment during 1927," Mr. Brite declared.

Mr. Brite urged that the embargo be retained on cattle from countries in which the foot and mouth disease is prevalent and that there be no lowering of the tariff on South American meat.

SCHOOLS IN
SOUTH TORN
BY TWISTERFour Children Dead in
DeKalb County, Tennes-
see, Due to StormINFANT CRUSHED
IN KENTUCKY HOMEWinds Cause Huge Tank
to Collapse in New York
—Police Search Ruins
for Bodies.

By The Associated Press
A windstorm that spread wreckage across eastern and southern states continued without abatement today and the weather bureau warned that a disturbance of great intensity centering over Maine would cause west and northwest gales.

In Tennessee a rural school house was blown over and four children were killed. In several counties trees were uprooted and houses unroofed.

Wind reaching a 70-mile velocity swept across Maryland and Delaware and in Delmar, a town straddling the border of the two states, damage to houses was severe. Electric light was cut off and for a time communication with the outer world was destroyed.

New York state felt the full force of the gale with a wind that approached 70 miles an hour. A section was torn from the roof of the Hotel Ansonia at Broadway and Third street and pedestrians on the crowded sidewalks were imperilled by the falling debris.

The storm began with rain in most sections but today the temperature was falling and in some places the rain had turned to snow.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 25 (AP)—The storm which swept in a great semi-circle south of Nashville through a half dozen of more counties yesterday reached the climax of its destructiveness in DeKalb county, where a rural district school on Holmes creek was blown over and four children killed and another probably fatally injured. The dead: Edward Atkin, 8; Harvey Cripps, 6; George W. Smith, 14; Ruby Hayes, 6.

Aubrey Smith, 14, is expected to die from internal injuries. H. Grady Carter, teacher, sustained a broken ankle and numerous cuts and bruises, but his condition is not considered as serious.

Without Warning
The storm which wrecked the school and snuffed out the lives of the children came almost without warning.

A neighbor mounted his horse and carried the news to Smithville and doctors hastened to the scene. Storm damage was reported from Cheatham county on the west, Williamson, Mayes and Rutherford, south of here, and DeKalb on the east. The damage in all these counties, DeKalb excepted, consisted of the children being killed.

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Canadian Wheat
Yield Figure Given

OTTAWA, Ont., Jan. 25 (AP)—The total yield of wheat in Canada for 1927 is estimated at 449,824,799 bushels, from 22,469,909 acres, according to a crop report issued by the Dominion bureau of statistics today.

TORTURERS?



Robert Pitts of Greenup, Ky., and his housekeeper, Marie Frazier, pictured above, are held without bond at Winchester, Ky., charged with the torture and slaying of three-year-old Mary Magdalene Pitts. The woman alleges, for Robert W. Stewart, chairman of the board of the Standard Oil company of Indiana, now in Havana, that Stewart was wanted here for immediate questioning.

The bonds given Everhart by Sinclair have been identified as part of a batch purchased by the Continental Trading company in which Stewart and other oil men were interested.

MARINES OCCUPY
EL CHIPOTE HILLThis Is Second Nicaragu-
an Rebel Stronghold to
Fall Before Advance

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Jan. 25 (AP)—American marines were installed today on the slope of El Chipote mountain, the stronghold which the rebel general, Augustino Sandino, considered impregnable. This was the second rebel headquarters to fall before the rebel advance in which Sandino is believed by marines to have been wounded.

The Sandino headquarters at Quilab was seized by marines on Jan. 15, after a battle in which five marines were killed. Sandino then withdrew to El Chipote and entrenched himself on the mountains.

Seeking to verify reports that Sandino had been killed in the encounter, marines flew over El Chipote last week. They noted no activity there, only signs of death and evacuation being evident. Marine patrols proceeded carefully through the mountainous jungle toward the stronghold.

Yesterday Major Archibald Young, commander of the marines in the affected section, advised headquarters that a column of marines had established itself on the slopes of El Chipote.

Patrols operating in the vicinity have killed between six and 10 rebels in the past few days but the region itself has been extremely quiet recently.

Believe Him Wounded
Colonel Louis Mason Gulick, in command of operations, said it was fairly well established that Sandino was wounded in the raid of Jan. 14. It was not known how seriously.

Latest advices were that Sandino had a small group of followers.

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Gives \$35,000 To
Children's Home

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 25 (AP)—Over \$35,000 of the \$111,000 estate of Rachel Jenette Matheson was bequeathed to the children's farm home near Corvallis. It is a partially state aided institution founded a few years ago by the W. C. T. U. The will was admitted to probate here yesterday.

Broken Vein Ends
Vocal Utterances

REDDING, Cal., Jan. 25 (AP)—When Mrs. O'Leary's now famous cow kicked over a lamp, it started the great Chicago blaze, but when the cow owned by Hal Shearin, rancher living near here, kicked over a pail of milk, Shearin's excitement was so great that he broke a blood vessel in his head and has not been able to express himself since.

Physicians attending the rancher here declare the case is one of the most unique in their experience. Shearin still has the power of speech, and apparently knows what he wants to say, but is unable to say it.

Everhart Tells
Of Transfer Of
\$133,000 BondsHarry Sinclair Refused to
Accept Tangible Evi-
dence of Purchase from
Fall, Is Testimony.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25 (AP)—M. T. Everhart told the senate oil committee today that when Harry P. Sinclair turned over \$133,000 in liberty bonds to him and his father-in-law, Albert B. Fall, in exchange for an interest in the Fall-Everhart ranch holdings, the oil took in return no tangible evidence of the newly acquired interest in the property.

Replying to Senator Walsh, of Montana, Everhart said that if Sinclair should make claim to the stock in the Tres Ritos cattle and land company, which was set aside for him, he would have to rely upon the word of the witnesses and Fall that he had bought the stocks.

"I tendered the certificates to him but he did not accept them," Everhart said. Everhart told yesterday how he handled the bonds that changed hands in this deal was recalled today after the committee notified counsel for Robert W. Stewart, chairman of the board of the Standard Oil company of Indiana, now in Havana, that Stewart was wanted here for immediate questioning.

The bonds given Everhart by Sinclair have been identified as part of a batch purchased by the Continental Trading company in which Stewart and other oil men were interested.

Sheep Outlook
In East Oregon
Reported Good

PENDLETON, Jan. 25 (AP)—Conditions in this region for sheep during the winter have been exceptionally good, according to Mac Hoke, local sheep man. Feed conditions have been excellent, and lambing operations are expected to start around the first of February. Lamb prices for July and October delivery are approximately the same as a year ago at 10 and 11 cents a pound. Wool prices this year have been four and five cents higher than last. Consignable wool in the Shanks and Condon districts has been contracted for June delivery at 25 to 33 cents a pound and 40,000 fleeces of the Smythe clip at Arlington have been sold, according to reports.

Pendleton will remain headquarters of the Oregon Wool Growers' association this year, Baker seems favored for the 1929 convention.

Family of 31
Live In
Single Room

UZUNLU, Turkey, Jan. 25 (AP)—One of the world's large families, has been found in Uzunlu living in a one-room shack. It consists of a 50-year-old peasant, Aglia Faola, his seven wives and 31 children.

The old Moslem law permitted a man four wives and as the new law abolishing polygamy is not retroactive, the peasant's first four wives in order of marriage will be left to him.

He will be required, however, to divorce the last three, to his great sorrow. For the last three are the youngest and the best looking.

Embrace No Reason
To Break Contract

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 25 (AP)—The charge that he placed his arm around one of the girl pupils of Parrish Junior high school, while accompanying her home, is not sufficient cause for abrogation of the teaching contract of H. E. Rice, the Salem school board was informed by City Superintendent George Hug last night.

Rice is an instructor in mathematics. He was dismissed by H. E. Durham, principal of the school, after the above mentioned incident. Superintendent Hug said that contracts with teachers cannot be broken except in cases of gross neglect of duty or immoral conduct.

Three Youths Face
Auto Theft Charge

MEDFORD, Ore., Jan. 25 (AP)—George Cuthin and Allen Martin, of Seattle, Wash., and Howard Hubbell, of Coit, Wash., youths, were bound over to the federal grand jury this morning by U. S. Commissioner Chancey Flacey, for alleged violation of the federal law against driving of stolen automobiles between states. The trio were arrested in Ashland Tuesday.

ONE-MAN ENGINES

BERLIN—One-man engines are being tried on the Swiss Federal railways in an effort to reduce operating expenses. As most of the lines have been electrified, great saving is looked for, but the experiment is still in preliminary stages.

GIRL SLAYER
ON TRIAL IN
LOS ANGELESWilliam E. Hickman, Kid-
naper of Marian Parker,
Faces Judge HardyMOTHER ABSENT
AS COURT OPENSIf Jury Finds Killer Sane,
Guilt of Defendant Will
Have Been Thoroughly
Established.

LOS ANGELES, (Press Time Flash)—Judge Hardy this afternoon consented in the interests of justice and a speedy trial of Hickman to allow another judge to hear the case. A few minutes later the trial was adjourned to Thursday morning for consideration of selection of another judge.

HALL OF JUSTICE, Los Angeles, Jan. 25 (AP)—The trial of William Edward Hickman, kidnaper-slayer of little Marian Parker, after opening at 9:30 o'clock today, and being in session 40 minutes, was adjourned to two o'clock this afternoon.

The action was taken to allow Superior Judge Carlos Hardy and District Attorney Asa Keyes opportunity to consider, and the court to rule upon, an exception taken to Judge Hardy sitting in the case on the grounds of bias and prejudice.

Thirty minutes of the session had been consumed in the reading of the lengthy written exception by the court, the district attorney and Deputy District Attorney Forrest Murray.

The document was returned to Judge Hardy, who commented that it purported to be signed by the defendant Hickman.

The court declared the document in part faulty and submitted it to the defense attorney for amendment.

Hickman Swears
Hickman then stood and raised his right hand, swearing that he had signed the exception.

The district attorney then rendered the opinion the document failed to establish the asserted bias and prejudice, that it was not an affidavit of fact and that it should be overruled.

Judge Hardy in announcing the adjournment to afternoon, declared the court was not biased nor prejudiced, but delayed ruling on the exception.

Hickman was dressed in a neat blue serge suit and noticeable by his wavy black hair which had been slicked by the sides with a shiny effect. He sat just back of the counsel table, a deputy sheriff at his right and his chief attorney, Jerome Wash of Kansas, at his left and a bit front at the long table. Hickman turned his head slightly to right and left during the 40 minutes lull but otherwise sat quietly.

The defendant's brother, Alfred Hickman of Kansas City, was the only other member of the family present.

Mother Not Present
Mrs. Eva Hickman, the mother, also of Kansas City and father, Thomas Hickman of El Paso, Texas, came here for the trial, but were not present at the opening session.

Judge Hardy introduced and welcomed to a seat at his side the veteran chief justice Isaac N. Sullivan of Idaho, who sat as a spectator.

(Continued on Page Four)

CRITICS HEAR
MUSIC MADE BY
WAVE OF HAND

NEW YORK, Jan. 25 (AP)—A group of musicians, music critics and representative New Yorkers have heard music produced by a wave of