

# LaGrande Evening Observer

(Incorporated)  
An Independent Newspaper

FRANK B. APPELBY Editor and Publisher  
HARVEY F. MATTHEWS Business Manager

Published evenings, except Sunday, at 1416 Adams Avenue La Grande, Oregon. The Observer-Star published every Friday. Entered at the Postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, as Second Class Mail Matter under act of March 7, 1879.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF UNION COUNTY AND THE CITY OF LA GRANDE

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

By Carrier	
Daily, per month in advance	75c
Daily, six months in advance	\$4.50
Daily, single copy	.50
By Mail	
Daily, per month in advance	50c
Daily, per six months in advance	\$2.50
Daily, per year in advance	\$5.00
Weekly Observer-Star, per year	\$2.00

ADVERTISING RATES

Display, foreign, per column inch	42c
Display, local, per column inch	40c
Time contract prices on application.	

RIGHT ATTITUDE—O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture. Psalm 95: 6, 7.

Those who used to go down to the sea in ships will soon go up to the sea in planes.

Vested interests are sacred, and one of these days we may expect to see a vigorous protest from the dry cleaning industry against ridding cities of their smoke.

People who make a business of sending presents to presidents seem to have overlooked the fact that if President Coolidge is going to start whittling pretty soon, he'll need something to whittle with.

A court injunction has been granted in Berlin against portraying the former kaiser on the stage, along with other crowned heads, as a man of feeble mind and weak character. Wilhelm, the court held, may not be impersonated in any German theater if he is represented "in his dotage, cynically muttering incoherent phrases about attempts to keep the peace." There was a time when any such portrayal would have been drastically punished on the ground of lese-majesty. There is no more lese-majesty in Germany; one may criticize Wilhelm now without going to jail. This court order is little more than an insistence on dignity and decency in the dramatic representation of public men, and judicial courtesy to a broken old man. How has the mighty kaiser fallen, when he needs such protection!

**LONG LIFE FOR MIDDLE-AGED**

"Within 200 years," says a widely read editorial writer, "the average life has increased from 30 to 60 years, but a man of 50 has very little better chance of life than a man of that age 100 years ago."

Such statements have been made frequently of late, but are not strictly accurate. It is true that the insurance tables do not show much more "expectancy of life" for the man in his fifties than they did many years ago. The middle-aged man must still pay a stiff premium rate on his life policy, compared with that paid by the young men, and there is still a heavy mortality among the middle-aged.

Nevertheless the middle-aged person has a far better chance at long life than he would have had in former generations—if only he takes care of himself according to health standards now well known, and uses medical resources now available.

The middle-aged do not have to die of degenerative diseases. Most of those who do so could live to a ripe old age, doing effective work and enjoying life far beyond the customary years of efficiency, if they would merely do what the doctors tell them, and give the medical profession a chance to do for them the innumerable things it can do which have only been possible in recent years.

Let the man in his forties or fifties submit to a thorough overhauling by a competent physician, and repeat the procedure every year or two. Let him straighten out any kinks found in his system, and adopt better habits of diet, exercise, work and play. The middle-aged may benefit in prolonged years almost as much as children do from the care given them.

### Farmer Kills Self North of Longview

LONGVIEW, Wash., Jan. 23 (AP)—Olyde M. Bassett, 52, farmer, living seven miles north of here on the Pacific highway, shot and killed himself today. Mrs. Wilma Bartz, a neighbor living a mile away, saw through her kitchen

60 windows, Bassett come out of his house in night clothes, put a gun to his forehead and fall over dead. Bassett has been dependent on account of ill health. He had been especially nervous during the past year, since his son, Arthur, of Longview, was stranded in the Columbia river taking motion pictures of highway building operations. In that boat, April 22, 1927, two other cameramen were killed.

### USE LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE

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### ABE MARTIN



Why don't they shoot a little advice into college students each day instead of handin' it 'em all in a lump when they graduate? When a consumer feels like he needs a double garage he goes down in his pocket and pays for it, but when a public utility wants to expand it makes its customers pay the bill.

### SCHOOLS IN SOUTH TORN BY TWISTER

(Continued from Page One)

...of the unroofing of houses and uprooting of trees.

**21 Children Menaced**

Twenty-one children and their teacher barely escaped death or serious injury when a twister demolished a one-story frame school house near Lang, Ky., yesterday. The wind struck the building while classes were in session and tore the school from its foundation, rolling it over on its side. As the building overturned, one side was torn loose and the children, ranging in age from six to 14, and their teacher, Miss Hattie Scott, managed to crawl from the wreckage.

An infant daughter of A. Trice, a farmer near Gaze, Ky., was crushed beneath the wreckage of a brick chimney when the Trice home was demolished by the winds. The storm left ruined homes at Wickliffe, Ky., Glace Lomont and Paducah, all Kentucky river towns, and then dipped into Illinois in the direction of Caseyville.

In Franklin, Columbia and Murfreesboro, all in Central Tennessee, houses were unroofed, a school building at Columbia was destroyed and the walls of several brick buildings were blown down.

### TANK COLLAPSES

NEW YORK, Jan. 23 (AP)—A tank on the roof of an eleven-story building in Hubert street, on the lower west side, crashed four floors when it was blown over by the high winds this afternoon. Several persons were reported buried in the wreckage.

On the sixth and tenth floors 55 men and girls were at work in a building. A book binding machine operator was carried through two floors and it took 20 minutes to extricate him from the wreckage but he escaped with a few scratches.

In the confusion it was impossible to account for all the occupants and police and firemen immediately began searching the ruins.

### Seeks Order To View Store Books

SALFEM, Ore., Jan. 22 (AP)—F. C. Meyer, Portland, who claims to be the owner of common and preferred stock in the Oregon Plug and Whig company, valued at \$47,000, today filed an original proceeding in mandamus in the supreme court demanding that he be allowed to examine the books and records of the company.

The suit is filed against Henry Meyer and George S. Sheppard, officials of the company. The petitioner claims that he has repeatedly requested that he be given access to the books and that the board of directors has refused him the privilege.

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### CURTIS FAVORS 'DRY' COUNTRY

#### Strict Enforcement of the Prohibition Law Pledged by 1928 Candidate

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23 (AP)—Senator Curtis, of Kansas, who is a candidate for the republican presidential nomination, declared today for a plank in the next party platform pledging strict enforcement of the prohibition law.

He also announced his opposition to the sales determining what alcoholic content should be permitted and said he was against repeal of either the 18th amendment or the Volstead act.

His views were stated in a letter to Senator Borah, of Idaho, who is questioning all republican presidential candidates on the wet and dry issue.

"As you are a former citizen of Kansas," Curtis wrote, "I have no doubt you recall my record as prosecuting attorney for Shawnee county, Kansas, from 1885 to 1889. You will recall that when I took office, the saloons were running wide open in the city of Topeka, and that I had promised, if elected, to enforce the law as written.

"This promise, was, as you know, fulfilled, and every saloon was closed within 20 days and remained closed for the four years I was county attorney.

"I believe in meeting the issue squarely and am heartily in favor of fully enforcing all our laws, and I am opposed to the repeal of the 18th amendment or the Volstead act."

### GIRL SLAYER ON TRIAL IN LOS ANGELES

(Continued from Page 1)

William Edward Hickman, kidnaper-killer of little Marian Parker, was brought into superior court at 2:35 o'clock today for the opening of his sanity trial. He was in custody of a deputy sheriff and a jailer.

Superior Judge Carlos Hardy previously had capped for quiet in the capacity-filled courtroom, and formally opened the trial at 9:20 o'clock.

Hickman sat quietly between his deputy and his chief counsel, Jerome Walsh, of Kansas City, at the court table.

Men predominated the scene, there being but a scattering of women in the 75 spectator's seats, while the 50 places assigned newspapermen, court attaches and trial witnesses were occupied principally by men.

The defendant's brother, Alford Hickman, of "Kabbah" City, had picked a seat inside the rail a few feet behind the counsel table.

The defense immediately requested lengthy recesses, to Judge Hardy sitting in the trial which he slowly read over. The court then handed the document to Deputy District Attorney Forrest Murray of the prosecution, who further held court action in abeyance by occupying himself with reading it.

District Attorney Asa Keyes also monopolized court time for ten minutes while he read the exception. He then rendered the opinion that the document was not in the form of an affidavit and did not show bias or prejudice on the part of the court as it claimed.

### "SANE" MEANS GUILTY

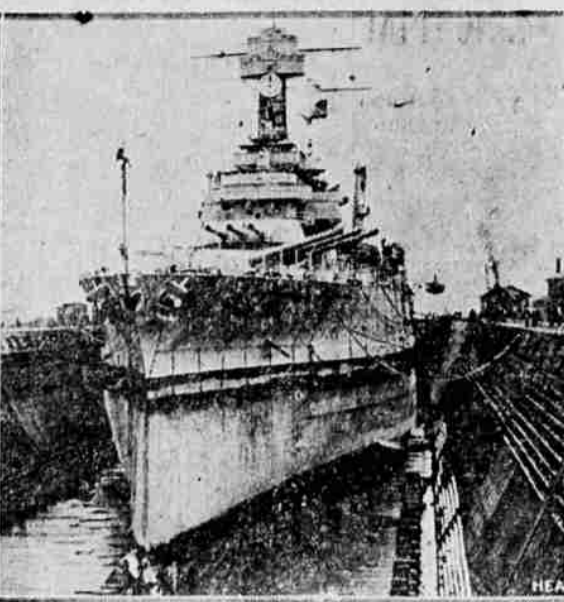
LOS ANGELES, Jan. 23 (AP)—The legal drama of the sanity trial of William Edward Hickman, confessed kidnaper and slayer of little Marian Parker, opening here today will fall into the class known to the theater as a "two-a-day."

Besieged by throngs of the curious avidly seeking the pasteboards admitting spectators to the sensational trial, Judge Carlos Hardy has adopted the plan of giving half-day passes for the less than 75 seats available after 50 newspaper representatives as well as court attaches are provided for.

Before this changing audience, the rival attorneys and the judge will steer the case along hitherto untested courses charted by the new California law governing insanity defenses.

Hickman's sanity—defined as the ability to judge between right

### WHAT'S UNDERNEATH A WARSHIP



Even a big battleship like the U. S. S. California has to come out of the water at least once a year, and here's the flagship on the Hunter's Point drydock at San Francisco, getting an overhauling. Big as they are on the surface, the "battles wagons" still have more tonnage below the water line.

and wrong—is the sole issue and on this the jury of twelve is required to reach an unanimous verdict. If found sane the young defendant will be sentenced by Judge Hardy either to life imprisonment or to be hanged. If Hickman were found to be insane now or to have been insane at the time of the crime some legal authorities have declared he would be sent to a state hospital for a year and then could demand a sanity trial. If then found sane these authorities contend, he would be given his freedom.

### COLONIAL

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—In—

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Humor - Mystery

KINOGRAM NEWS

TOPICS And

AESOP'S FABLES

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both men were ready to testify of talesmen gathered here and that Hickman is insane. The opening of the trial drew about five hundred persons to the lawns and sidewalks around the hall of justice, most of them aimlessly standing around waiting for something to happen that never happened.

### Accuse Husband Of Kidnaping

Everything Orderly

These crowds outside had no chance to reach the eighth floor of the building where Judge Hardy's court is located. Up on that level the corridors were thoroughly policed and a barricade had been built some distance from the courtroom door through which nobody passed without a written permit signed by the judge.

Everything was orderly, groups of talesmen gathered here and there newspapermen and spectators passed to and fro but there was noticeably absent that pushing, shoving eagerness of a big crowd to gain admittance to the trial scene.

MARSHFIELD, Ore., Jan. 23 (AP)—Mrs. Marjorie Misemer was leaving here today with her two children for her home in Alturas, Cal., after recovering them from her husband here Monday evening. She said she would press kidnaping charges against Hulen Misemer, the husband.

# MJB

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## The Evening Observer

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