EASTERN OREGON'S LEADING NEWSPAPER—TEN PAGES TODAY—FULL ASSOCIATED PRESS LEASED WIRE SERVICE

CITY EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER
OREGON: Fair tonight and Saturday. No change in temperature. Light variable winds.

VOLUME XXVI. MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS LA GRANDE, OREGON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1928. MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS NUMBER 158

CONFERENCE OPENS HERE FEBRUARY 24

Plans Made for Boys' and Girls' Club Banquet on First Night

LOCAL COMMITTEES OUTLINE PROGRAM

Farm Crops Schedule Is Worked Out; Other Arrangements Are Rapidly Shaping Up.

Plans were made for a banquet for all boys' and girls' club members of the county on Friday evening of the annual Economic conference, which will be held next Friday and Saturday, Feb. 24 and 25, yesterday when a meeting of the boys' and girls' committee and the vocational conference committee was held at the La Grande hotel.

Frank McKennon is chairman of both committees and other members present for the meeting were Mrs. Lloyd Pierce, E. A. Sayre, J. T. Longfellow, J. E. Mills and H. G. Avery.

The boys' and girls' club workers program was outlined during the meeting. On Friday afternoon there will be a general conference of club leaders and on Saturday morning there will be a meeting for all club members. E. A. Sayre, county school superintendent, is arranging the program for Friday's meeting and Mrs. Pierce is planning the program for Saturday morning. H. G. Avery, county agent, is preparing the program to be given during the banquet Friday evening. J. T. Longfellow, superintendent of La Grande schools, is making arrangements for the vocational guidance conference, which is for all high school students of the county, especially the senior students.

Meet Two Days

The vocational guidance department, the home makers conference and the club workers will meet on both days of the conference, and other sections will meet half a day each. Friday afternoon there will be a meeting of the general economics, horticulture and dairy sections and Saturday morning the livestock, poultry, and farm crops and irrigation sections will meet. Saturday afternoon there will be a general meeting of all sections, when resolutions will be present-

(Continued on Page 5)

MR. ZURBRICK PASSES AWAY AT HOME HERE

Franklin Zurbrick, a resident of La Grande since 1900, died at his home at 1103 N avenue at 11:45 o'clock last night. Funeral services will be held Saturday afternoon, at 2:30 o'clock at the Hunter and Bohnenkamp mortuary. The Rev. Oliver Riley, rector of the Episcopal church, will officiate and burial will be in the Masonic cemetery under the direction of the local Masonic lodge.

Mr. Zurbrick was born April 8, 1855, in Cheektawaga, Erie county, New York, where he grew to manhood. In 1882 he was united in marriage to Lisette M. Sommer, who survives him. To this union four children were born, one daughter preceding him to the Great Beyond at the age of 15 years. Three sons are living, B. F. Zurbrick, of Youngstown, Ohio, and W. A. and H. A. Zurbrick, of La Grande. He also leaves seven grandchildren.

In 1900 Mr. Zurbrick came with his family to the Grande Ronde valley, which has since been his home. Although in poor health for the last two years, he was able to be about until his last illness, which was of two months duration.

The deceased was a nephew of the late George Gekeler, a pioneer of this valley.

ATTRACTIVE TO SEE AND TO READ

You enjoy the advertising in The Observer not only because it is instructive and beneficial, but because it is generally attractive to the eye and interesting to the mind.

An advertising message that is illustrated effectively is often more attractive to the eye than it might otherwise be. And if it is interestingly written it is equally attractive to read. The increasing excellence is due in no small way to the illustration and copy service provided Observer advertisers without additional cost. It permits business men to keep contact with you in an attractive way at the minimum cost per reader.

"Observer Advertising—A Merchandising Service"

Joe McBride And J. Soto on Trial In Circuit Court

Attorneys Arguing Case This Afternoon — Defendant Wins Civil Suit

Trial of Joe McBride and Joe Soto, who were indicted by grand jury on charges of automobile theft, was commenced this morning in circuit court before Judge J. W. Knowles. They were arrested near Pendleton by officers late last fall after they took a car from La Grande, officers declare. Soto is a Mexican.

This afternoon attorneys were arguing the case, testimony having been completed.

District Attorney Carl Helm is prosecuting and R. C. Ayres is attorney for the defense.

Defendant Wins

In the case of Harrison vs. McVey, an action to collect money, which was heard in court yesterday, the jury found for the defendent.

Red Cross And Campfire Girls To Assist Needy

Officers of the Red Cross association met last night at the chamber of commerce offices here, when the regular business of the association was taken up. Dr. Ray Murphy is president, Hugh E. Brady, vice president and Mrs. E. P. Mossman, Mrs. Sherwood Williams and Chester L. Thompson are members of the executive committee. All were present except Mr. Brady, who was out of the city.

Miss Myrtle Hoyt, representing the campfire girls of La Grande, offered to furnish clothing and layettes for the needy of the city if these articles would be distributed by the Red Cross. The making of these garments will be a part of the campfire girls' program during the month of March, when the campfire organization will celebrate its birthday in La Grande. There are ten groups here at present, and all will devote next month to sewing for the needy, each case to be thoroughly investigated by the Red Cross as to its worthiness, with the assistance of Miss Alice Marquardt, county health nurse.

Other plans for helping the needy of the city were also discussed during the meeting.

DeMolays Planning For Joint Meeting

Plans for a joint meeting of the Baker, Pendleton and La Grande DeMolays were discussed at an interesting meeting of the La Grande chapter of DeMolay last night at which Donald Patton, senior counselor, presided in the absence of Tom Bruce, master counselor. The La Grande chapter will be hosts at the meeting which will include a banquet to be given at the Masonic hall here and later a dance. A large attendance is expected for the evening from the La Grande chapter, which includes several Union members, and from the visiting chapters as well. The date has been set at March 9.

Announcement of the organization of a DeMolay basketball team was made, together with the announcement of a game to be played with the Mt. Glen team next Wednesday.

Presbyterian Men Hear A. R. Hunter

The Presbyterian Men's club met last night at the home of Lynne Bohnenkamp, when Senator A. R. Hunter talked on "Oregon Highways." The meeting was well attended and the program was one of interest. The Rev. J. George Walz conducted a short devotional service.

Mrs. Bohnenkamp, assisted by Dr. Margaret Ingle, served refreshments after the meeting.

W. C. T. U. Endorses Hoover and Lowden

EVANSTON, Ill., Feb. 17. (AP)—The Women's Christian Temperance union gives Herbert Hoover, secretary of commerce, and Frank O. Lowden, former Illinois governor, "dry" records.

Both Hoover and Lowden have signified their willingness to have their names entered in republican presidential primaries.

Pessimistic As To Tax Reduction

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—Congress, in the opnion of President Coolidge, has been too liberal with appropriations and the prospect of tax reduction has correspondingly been endangered.

COLLEGE STUDENT DIES

BERKELEY, Cal., Feb. 17. (AP)—Lawrence Murphy, 21, a student at the University of California was found dead in his room here today. An autopsy disclosed he died of heart disease. Police at first believed the youth had taken his own life.

BANK ROBBER KILLED, PAL SHOT IN LEG

Citizens of Pe Ell, Wash., Surround Bandits After Auto Chase

BURGLAR ALARM SUMMONS POSSE

Intruder Steps on Device During Scuffle with Employes — Identity of Two Unknown.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Feb. 17 (AP)—One bandit was killed and another was wounded by a posse of citizens of Pe Ell, 25 miles southwest of here, shortly after noon today after the two men had held up the Pe Ell State bank and escaped with about $3000 in currency.

One bandit was shot in the head by A. Visser, Pe Ell butcher and the other was shot in the leg. He was captured and the money recovered. Entering the bank shortly before noon the bandits tied Van Olinda the manager of the bank, Lee Dunlap, cashier, and Mrs. W. E. Barringer another employe, and dragged them into the bank vault.

Burglar Alarm Sounds

In the scuffle one of the bandits unwittingly stepped on the burglar alarm. Gathering up about $3000 in currency the bandits ran out of the bank to a machine left standing at the curb with its engine running.

By this time about 15 citizens of Pe Ell summoned by the burglar alarm, were running toward the bank. Bullets deflated tires of the bandit automobile and they abandoned it, jumping on a wood truck driven by Frank Houtes.

The bandits forced Houtes to drive them east from Pe Ell. Pursued by the posse of citizens and officers, the bandits left the wood truck about one and a half miles east of Pe Ell, where they took to the woods. There they were surrounded by the posse and shot.

Officers were endeavoring to learn the identity of the bandits.

ELK GROVE BANK ROBBED

ELK GROVE, Calif., Feb. 17 (AP)—Three days after the bank of Courtland was held up by two unmasked men, the bank of Elk Grove was today looted of $10,000 by two unmasked bandits who walked into the lobby a few minutes after 11 o'clock produced revolvers and forced three men, employes, to lie upon the floor until they had finished their work. Several customers entering the bank during the holdup were herded into a back room, at the point of a gun.

3 NEW MEMBERS ON CLUB BOARD

A. R. Bowen, A. T. Hill and O. W. Warnock Elected by C. of C.

Three new members were elected to the Union county chamber of commerce board of directors for the year 1928-29. The final election ballots were counted last night by Dr. H. S. Brownton and Oscar Warnock, members of the election committee, assisted by Harvey F. Matthews.

The new members of the board are Arthur R. Bowen, A. T. Hill and Mr. Warnock. The outgoing directors are George S. Birnie, H. E. Dixon and Elmer I. Stoddard. Other members of the board who were re-elected are F. B. Appleby, H. E. Brady, H. E. Coolidge, R. S. Eakin, G. L. Larison, J. T. Longfellow, Dr. R. F. Murphy, W. C. Perkins and Dr. W. T. Ply.

A meeting of the new board will be called sometime soon for organization purposes, when officers will be elected for the new year. The board members and officers will be installed at the annual chamber of commerce banquet, which closes the year's work, to be held Tuesday, Mar. 6.

KLAMATH MAN SENTENCED

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 17 (AP)—H. D. Masters of Klamath Falls was sentenced to three months in jail by Federal Judge McNary today. Manufacture and possession of moonshine was the charge.

OBSERVER WILL BUY BACK COPIES OF HOTEL EDITION

Although what was thought to be an adequate supply of extra copies of the Sacajawea Inn special edition was run off by The Observer, these extra copies were immediately sold yesterday afternoon and The Observer, to supply the demand for additional papers, will buy back any of the hotel special editions, if complete and in good order, for five cents a copy.

I. C. C., REED ATTACKED IN U. S. SENATE

Cousin of Pennsylvanian Hurls Sharp Barbs at Two Targets

COAL RATE RULE CALLED UNJUST

Charges Reversal Favors Operators of Pennsylvania Over Other Nearby States.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17. (AP)—Intimidation of certain members of the interstate commerce commission in the lake cargo coal rate case by a political influence emanating from Pennsylvania and running into the White House itself was charged today in the senate by Senator Reed, democrat, Missouri.

Asserting that the commission had reversed itself in this case so as to favor the coal operators of Pennsylvania over those in West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia Senator Reed declared it had rendered a decision "not only revolutionary and unjust," but "probably the most arbitrary yet handed down by a federal board of tribunal."

Mentions Reed, of Pennsylvania

Speaking on the eve of his departure on a stumping tour which is to take him across the continent, the Missouri democrat said it was "hard to escape the conclusion that the interstate commerce commission reversed itself because it sat under the shadow of the suspended sword of Pennsylvania" wielded by Senator Reed of that state, who, the Missourian said, "possessed the advantage of long experience and intimate association with the secretary of the treasury."

The Missourian reminded the senate that his Pennsylvania cousin has opposed the nomination of Thomas F. Woodlock, of New York, to the commission until he had had assurance from the White House that Pennsylvania would be considered in the next appointment.

"The term of Commissioner Cox, one of the commissioners who had concurred in the majority opinion (against the Pennsylvania operators) was about to expire.

Praises Cox

"He has been a good commissioner. So far as I know, neither his ability nor fidelity had ever been questioned."

"But Pennsylvania had to be taken care of."

The Missourian then told of the appointment of Cyrus E. Woods, of Pennsylvania, to succeed Cox and of the rejection of his nomination by the senate, because he had been connected with the Pennsylvania coal industry both as attorney and stockholder.

"Under the circumstances, it would not have been wise to act just then and they appointed another man like Woods," Reed continued, "so Mr. Brainard was appointed to fill the seat made vacant by Cox. And be it said to Brainard's credit, he did not undertake to participate in the decision on the hearing.

Says Obstacle Removed

"But nevertheless, the removal of Cox had removed one of the obstacles to the reversal of the case.

"The term of Commissioner Esch was about to expire.

"His emoluments and honors, of course, dependent upon reappointment.

"He must have known of the threat of Senator Reed that Penn-

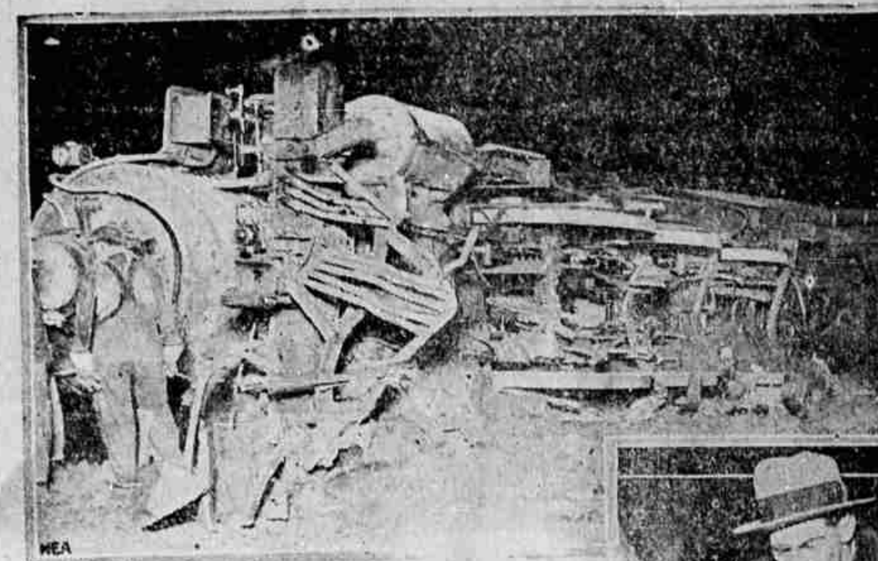
(Continued on Page 5)

Tigers Have An Even Chance, Is Coach's Belief

The L. H. S. basketball squad departed today for Pendleton, where tonight the Tigers will attempt to do something seldom accomplished—beat the Buckaroos on their own maple court. "Chances are even," was the brief comment of Coach Christie this morning a few hours before the team left. He took with him nine eagers, Captain Stoddard, Herr, Braden, Hibberd, H. Wolfe, Roe, Ebus, Bugg and V. Newlin. While the coach doesn't believe that Pendleton has a superior team, he does think that the strangeness of the Round-Up City's floor will enter into the game, as it has apparently done in previous years. The team left at 2:25 o'clock this afternoon.

Students held a pep assembly at the high school at 9 o'clock, at which the president, Tom Bruce, presided. Music was furnished by the "Bats," a jazz orchestra composed of Clark Ruckman, pianist, Ben Oesterling, saxophonist, Henry Culp, saxophonist, Harold Browning, drummer, and Leland Hale, cornetist, all high school students. Harold Herr and Leonard Roe spoke for the Tiger squad during the pep meeting which included the usual yell and sing period.

MULE BRINGS FATAL WRECK ON RAILROAD



Because a mule became balky and refused to leave the railroad right of way, a Southern Pacific train was wrecked near Sacramento, resulting in the death of the engineer and injury of several others. The upper picture shows the overturned engine. Below is the other casualty—the ears of the mule after his obstinacy caused the wreck.

Ocean Gives Up Body of Airman, Possibly Knope

VENTURA, Cal., Feb. 17 (AP)—Brought up by the tide from Davy Jones' locker, in the depths of the ocean, a body believed to be that of one of the ill-fated trans-Pacific flyers was found on the beach near here late yesterday.

The body, several months in the salt water, may prove a relic of the Dole Hawaiian flight. Around the neck was found a black taffeta handkerchief, the type used in the navy, and the body may be that of Lieut. Vilas R. Knope, missing with the plane "Miss Doran" since Aug. 15.

Knope, navigator of the plane, is the only naval aviator unaccounted for among the five ill-fated flyers in the race.

With Knope in the plane were Miss Mildred Doran and Auggie Pedlar, both of Flint, Mich.

The body was found along the coastline at Hueneme, Cal. Investigators declare that the body is that of a well built man about 30 and of an athletic type—which corresponds in a general way to that of the missing naval aviator.

Employes of a dairy found the body and reported the find to Sheriff Carl Wallace, who, after viewing it, declared that it had been in the water for many months.

Two planes were lost in the Pacific in the race to Hawaii, the "Miss Doran" and the "Golden Eagle." Jack Frost and Gordon Scott were flying the "Golden Eagle." None of the quintet—Frost, Scott, Knope, Pedlar or Miss Doran—have been heard from since they were last seen flying over the Pacific ocean.

British Pilot Is Killed in Crash

FOLKESTONE, Eng., Feb. 17 (AP)—A British pilot was killed today during a mock aerial combat when two fighting planes from the Hawking airdrome collided 1000 feet over Folkestone. Both planes fell and one burst into flames.

Leviathan Ashore But Tugs Aid Her

SOUTHAMPTON, Eng., Feb. 17 (AP)—The U. S. liner Leviathan went ashore near Calshot at the head of Southampton water on her arrival here today but aided by four tugs, she moved astern and it appeared that she would be able to proceed to her dock.

Elgin Council To Act on Franchise

At a meeting of the Elgin city council held Wednesday night an ordinance to grant a franchise to the Home Independent Telephone company was brought up for consideration. Definite action will be taken at the next meeting the first Monday in March.

Two Women Face Murder Charges

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Feb. 17. (AP)—A poisoned well and flour bin, which a coroner's jury said brought death to Mr. [illegible] and [illegible] been [illegible] to a neighbor [illegible] man and her daughter.

Mrs. L[illegible] Ann Davis, 25, and her mother, Mrs. Ida May Willford, 55, were arrested yesterday, charged with murder. Officers declared the arrests followed the finding of footprints that led from the Kelly home to the house where the accused women resided.

HICKMAN APPEAL REASONS FILED

Attacks Constitutionality of California Law—Charges Errors

HALL OF JUSTICE, LOS ANGELES, Feb. 17. (AP)—The appellate court battle of William Edward Hickman, against his sentence to the gallows for the killing of little Marian Parker was advanced a step today when his statement of grounds for appeal was filed.

The statement, filed late in the morning session of his joint trial with Welby Hunt for the murder of C. Ivy Toms, was ten pages in length and contained 43 separate grounds for appeal. They were virtually the same as listed in the motion for a trial.

The appeal centered in an attack on constitutionality of the new California law governing insanity defenses, declaring Hickman was not given the benefit of a trial by jury. The statement declared that Hickman had been denied the privilege of having the jury recommend degree of punishment and the court had erred in setting sentence.

There was a long list of errors charged against the conduct of case by Judge J. J. Trabucco beginning with the very assignment of the judge to the trial.

Split in Counsel

A split in defense counsel was disclosed at the opening of this morning's session of the Toms trial when A. Gray Gillmer, Hunt's attorney announced he would not join in an attack on the legality of the entire jury panel. The blanket challenge had been issued by Hickman's counsel on the ground that the jurors had acted for more than the 20 days permitted by law.

Short cuts over the now long familiar pathways of jury questioning were taken as many prospective jurors stated any obstacles to their being seated as fast as they reached the jury box.

At the close of the morning court session the total of prospective jurors interrogated since the opening of the trial had reached 76. The defense had used 18 of its possible 20 peremptory challenges and the state had exercised six.

Six men and six women held tentative seats in the jury box.

Public Utility Investigation To Begin Shortly

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—The federal trade commission has decided to proceed immediately to carry out the provisions of the Walsh resolution calling for an investigation of public utility power corporations.

Draws 13 Spades; Furore Follows

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—A. J. Moran, an Erie railroad auditor, playing bridge in the club car of a Detroit to Washington train last night, held 13 spades and did not know what to bid. Twenty other bridge fans on the same car stopped [illegible] and tried to tell him. [illegible] special immediately was thrown into a furore and peace settled down only after Moran, ignoring the advice of his envious but unwelcome guests, bid four spades and cleaned the board.

BUTTERFAT

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 17 (AP)—Butterfat f. o. b. San Francisco, 49½c.

Jurors in Harry Hill Case Unable To Reach Verdict

OTTAWA, Ill., Feb. 17 (AP)—The jury which for four days deliberated the fate of Harry Hill, charged with killing his mother, was discharged today after it reported a disagreement.

Twice before the jurors had reported they were unable to agree upon a verdict, but each time were sent back by Judge Joe A. Davis for further deliberation. They had been out approximately 70 hours. They received the case Tuesday afternoon.

"All I can say is that I am sorry," said the judge, adding his thanks to the jurors.

State's Attorney Hanson stated he would ask that a new trial date be set immediately after the trial of Hiram Reed, charged with causing the injury of Iola Bradford, young school teacher, by setting off a charge of dynamite in the stove of the school in which she taught. It is set for Feb. 21.

MRS. COOLIDGE BETTER TODAY, MEDIC REPORTS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—Mrs. Coolidge was much better today, White House physicians reported.

Her ailment, described as a cold, has kept her to her apartment for a week and prevented her from participating last night in the army and navy reception at the White House.

For the first time since she became ill, Mrs. Coolidge was able to leave her bed and she walked around a bit today.

Will Appeal Case To Supreme Court

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 17 (AP)—James Wilson, Portland attorney, in a telephone conversation yesterday with Arch S. Benson, clerk of the state supreme court, intimated that the state office building case will be appealed to the United States supreme court. Wilson is one of the attorneys for the Eastern and Western Lumber company which sought to enjoin the state from erecting the building as an investment of funds of the state industrial accident commission. The supreme court held that the funds may legally be used for the purpose.

Corbett Will Be Acting Governor

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 17 (AP)—During the absence of Gov. Patterson with the Governors' caravan in California next week Henry L. Corbett, of Portland, will be acting governor by virtue of his position as president of the state senate. Whether it will be necessary for Senator Corbett to come to Salem will depend on state business during the week.

OLMSTEAD IS HELD GUILTY ON 22 COUNTS

Portland Banker and J. E. Wheeler Face Prison Terms and Fines

CONSPIRACY NOT PROVED, HOWEVER

Ten Hours Required by Jury to Return Verdict—Ten Days Allowed for New Trial Motion.

PORTLAND, Feb. 17 (AP)—Emery Olmstead, former president of the Northwestern National bank and J. E. Wheeler, former president of the McCormick Lumber company were acquitted by a federal jury on a charge of conspiracy to violate the national bank laws, but were found guilty on 22 substantive charges in an indictment returned against them jointly.

A sealed verdict, returned at 1:15 a. m. after about ten hours deliberation was read in federal court today. The trial, which started January 23, resulted from an indictment returned following the closing and liquidation of the Northwestern National bank last March. Olmstead and Wheeler were accused of having misappropriated $796,514 of the banks funds through alleged check kiting operations.

Maximum Penalties

Maximum penalty of five years in prison and fine of $5,000 is provided by law on each of the substantive charges in the indictment.

Then days was allowed by Federal Judge R. S. Bean for motion for a new trial. Thirty days was granted for filing of a bill of exceptions.

The detailed charges in the indictment had to do with a series of transactions, Wheeler had with the Northwestern National bank while Olmstead was president, and involved deposit by Wheeler of checks drawn upon Pennsylvania banks which were returned marked "Not sufficient funds." The aggregate of checks deposited approximated $11,000,000, and the government charged that the bank lost $796,514.15 as a result of these operations.

The defense contended that there was no intent to defraud the bank, and that Wheeler had given adequate guarantees to cover overdrafts resulting from return of checks from the eastern banks. Checks were deposited in the Northwestern National bank on trade acceptances which had been sent to the banks in Pennsylvania.

The jury was reported to have spent the first five hours of deliberation in a veritable "brainstorm."

First Vote 6 to 6

The first vote was said to have stood six to six. This vote was on all charges, including the conspiracy charge. Some hours later the jury stood 9 to 3 for conviction the nearest the members came to agreement on guilty return on all counts. The vote was later eight to four, jurors said. More than 20 ballots were taken. Finally a compromise was reached. The conspiracy count was dropped and a guilty verdict was agreed upon the remaining 22 counts.

While directors of the Northwestern had been present throughout the trial none was in the court room at the time the jury took the box.

With J. E. Wheeler were two brothers, L. R. and William. Olmstead was beside his attorneys.

The court clerk, after taking the verdict from the foreman, C. E. Lynch, read the Olmstead report first. He started by reading the "not guilty" return. Then as strain was noticed in the audience, he proceeded leisurely to read the guilty return for each of the remaining 22 counts.

He followed with the Wheeler findings re-reading the long list which had referred to Olmstead.

RADIO RULING IS EFFECTIVE IN TWO WEEKS

PENDLETON, Feb. 17 (AP)—The radio will have its inning in Pendleton henceforth. An ordinance passed last night by the city council makes it unlawful to operate electrical appliances which hamper radio reception between the hours of 7 and 11 in the evening without special permit. The ordinance, which goes into effect in 15 days, gives investigators the right to enter buildings to inspect electrical apparatus.

CONCLUDE INVESTIGATION

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 17 (AP)—Grand jury investigation of the affairs of Overbeck and Cooke, defunct brokerage house, was concluded today. Meantime arrangements were being made for appointment of a trustee in bankruptcy to bring suit against such patrons of the firm as shall be shown to have been debtors at the time of the collapse.