

CITY
EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER

OREGON: Unsettled Thursday.
Local rains and snow in the east
portion. Normal temperature.

VOLUME XXVI.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

LA GRANDE, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1928.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBER 168

2 HARDWARE
FIRMS HERE
CONSOLIDATEWill Operate in the Lilly
Hardware Location as
W. K. Gilbert Co.CLOTHING STORE
CHANGE IS MADER. E. Westenhaver Pur-
chases Gilbert's Stock in
Westenhaver & Gilbert
Company.Two business changes in La
Grande of importance were an-
nounced today—one, the consoli-
dation of the stocks of the Oregon
Hardware & Implement company
and Lilly's Hardware company,
and the other, the purchasing by
R. E. Westenhaver of Western Gil-
bert's interests in Westenhaver &
Gilbert.The merging of the two hard-
ware companies represents the
completion of a business change
that has been contemplated for
some time. The Oregon Hard-
ware & Implement company is now
completing a sale in its store-
rooms on Depot street and when
this is finished, the new company's
headquarters will be permanently
established in the Lilly Hardware
company location on Adams ave-
nue. The new firm will be known
as the W. K. Gilbert company.To maintain the business
of the Adams avenue store and H.
K. O'Brien will have charge of the
warehouse on Jefferson avenue,
where implements and heavy farm
hardware will be carried. The
Oregon Hardware & Implement
company retains half of the own-
ership of the Gilbert company.
R. E. Lilly will remain in the
business for some time, until he
has completed collection of the
Lilly Hardware company accounts.
Mr. Gilbert announced this morn-
ing that workmen will begin re-
modeling the store immediately,
this work to include the building
of office room for Mr. Gilbert,
the installation of new fixtures, and also
re-decoration of the interior of the
store.Mr. Gilbert states that the new
firm will live up to the policies
established by both merging or-
ganizations and that the person-
nel of the two stores will also be
consolidated in the Gilbert com-
pany.

Both Pioneer Firms

Both the Oregon Hardware &
Implement company and the Lilly
Hardware company have been in
existence here for many years and
both have enjoyed a liberal pat-
ronage.

(Continued on Page 5)

DR. DOUGLASS
IS SPEAKER AT
ROTARY LUNCHDr. H. R. Douglass, of the Uni-
versity of Oregon school of educa-
tion, was the main speaker at the
La Grande Rotary club luncheon
at the La Grande hotel today. He
also spoke at the La Grande High
school to the senior class at 11
a. m. and will speak at a Rotary
meeting at 2:45 p. m.Dr. Douglass spoke generally of
the university, discussing the ath-
letic standing of the school. He
also mentioned changes that Dr.
A. B. Hall, president, has inaugu-
rated and said that experiments in
new methods are proving very sat-
isfactory. Dr. Douglass deplored
the fact that the university is los-
ing several of its younger profes-
sors due to offers of better salaries
from other colleges and univer-
sities and also because some of
these other institutions have a sys-
tem whereby a professor is retired
on pay at a certain age.H. F. Matthews gave a five-minute
autobiography and W. C. Por-
kins reports that the Golden Rule
luncheon at the Sacajawea, sponsored
by the Compfire Girls and the
Rotarians, resulted in \$125 for the
support of a Near East orphan.CANDY, SMOKES
STOLEN FROM
FRANK HARRISFrank Harris' business place
was broken into about 2 o'clock
this morning, according to police
reports, and about 25 cartons of
cigarettes, some candy bars and
about \$2 in change was taken.
Joe Patterson has been arrested
as a suspect, the police record re-
veals. Police say that they found
about \$2.50 in small change and
two packages of cigarettes on his
person. Police also report finding
14 cartons of cigarettes near the
O-W. Ice house.Prairie City In
Union Tourney
From Grant Co.Keen Interest Shown Lo-
cally in Opening Games
to Be Played Thursday
Afternoon.All Hi-Dads and citizens who
are driving to Union tomorrow
afternoon for the opening games
of the basketball tournament are
urged to stop at the L. & L. cor-
ner, if they have any spare seats
in their cars, to pick up high
school students who have no
other way to reach the tourna-
ment. Students will be at that
corner after 1 o'clock.Prairie City will represent Grant
county in the district basketball
tournament at Union beginning
Thursday at 2 p. m. It was learned
today that Prairie City defeated Mt.
Vernon 27 to 24 in a champion-
ship game Monday night.It was also learned from Union
today that the city is travelling
the road in front of the gymnasium
so that cars will have no difficulty
regardless of weather conditions.Tomorrow afternoon's games are
attracting more interest here than
the evening contests. In the 2
o'clock encounter, Baker and La
Grande, traditional rivals, will
meet for the third time this sea-
son. Each has won and lost. Baker
defeating the Tigers at Baker 22
to 17 and the Bulldogs losing to
La Grande here last Saturday 17
to 15. Many regard the outcome
of this contest a toss-up.

Union vs. Joseph

Then at 2 o'clock Union and
Joseph are to meet. Union lost
at Joseph, but noted out the
branchline team at Union by one-
point in the regular scheduled
games. Incidentally, there are
stories of injuries to one of Jo-
seph's forwards, Laidler, and Jack
Cox, Union guard, is back in the
lineup. So this contest, also, is
likely to be anything but tame.
The winners of these two first tilt
will open the second round of play
at Union Friday morning at 9:30
o'clock.In the first game tomorrow
evening, Haines will meet Ontario.
Here, too, depositors are hard
pressed to figure a winner. On-
tario cleaned up Southeastern Ore-
gon during the pre-tournament
season, but not before she lost a
game to Nye. Haines has been
beaten by Baker and North Pow-
er.

(Continued on Page 5)

Mr. Dodson Will
Be Speaker At
Annual MeetingCharles A. Malboeuf, executive
secretary of the chamber of com-
merce, returned this morning from
the annual meeting of the Oregon state
chamber of commerce. He reports
a very busy and profitable two days
at the convention.Delegates were present from
nearly every commercial club in the
state. Speakers included Dr. Kerr,
president of the Oregon State col-
lege; Attorney Carlin, of Medford;
W. D. Dodson, general manager
of the state chamber, and others.
Prospects for a heavy tourist trade
in Oregon during the coming year
are good, reports revealed. The
state chamber is taking active steps
to bring more tourists into Oregon
annually.Mr. Malboeuf states Mr. Dod-
son, one of the leading speakers of
the Northwest, has accepted an in-
vitation to speak at the annual
banquet here next Tuesday evening
at the La Grande hotel. Mr. Mal-
boeuf also brought back greetings
from Earl Reynolds, formerly of La
Grande but now of the Klamath
Valley chamber.It is announced that Dr. W. T.
Phy, being a hold over director of
the state chamber, will remain as
a member of the board for the com-
ing year.Pioneer Resident
Of Elgin PassesMrs. Ann L. Harris, pioneer resi-
dent of Elgin, passed away at the
home of her son, Scott L. Harris, of
Elgin, yesterday. Mrs. Harris was
born June 2, 1859, and has been a resi-
dent of Elgin for 28 years. Mrs.
Harris was 77 years, 8 months and
27 days of age at the time of her
death. Funeral services will be
held from the Presbyterian church
Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock
with the Rev. W. F. Shields, of
Walla Walla, in charge. Interment
will be in the Elgin cemetery.Monthly Stake
Meet Held SundayThe monthly Union stake meet-
ing of the L. E. K. church was ob-
served Sunday with representatives
of all the organizations from every
stake ward in attendance. Depart-
ment meetings of the various or-
ganizations were held at 1:30
o'clock and following these sessions
a general meeting was held. The
Union meeting is held on the last
Sunday of every month.

BOSSES BOSSES

To be boss is fine, but to boss
the bosses is still better, says
Jack Benefield, Oregon man, just
elected president of the Pacific
Coast Inter-Conference of Gradu-
ate Managers' Association—the
men who conduct athletics in
universities.COMEDY STAGED
BY FIRST WARD"The Prince of Liars" Is
Successfully Presented
at L. H. S. Building"Honesty is the best policy" is
the moral that might have been
drawn from the three-act comedy
"The Prince of Liars," which was
presented at the high school last
night by the First Ward M. L. A.
had one stopped to worry about the
moral. But the audience of some
125 persons was too busy enjoying
the continuous humor and excite-
ment of the play to take it very
seriously.Elwood Williams, in the title
role as Mr. Hummingbird, newlywed
Englishman, was a man of impres-
sionable nature—and therein lay
the cause of all the trouble. Left
by his wife, who was on a visit
in charge of his mother-in-law, he
read the "Arabian Nights" and
was deeply impressed. When he
set out to duplicate adventures of
one of the stories he got into a
"peck of trouble" and resorted to
inventing all sorts of tales to ex-
plain unusual circumstances to his
suspecting mother-in-law, who had
sympathetic ideas and didn't mind
expressing them. Mr. Hummingbird's
troubles, which involved his moth-
er-in-law, played by Lucille Black,
who gave a fine interpretation, an
adventurous who refuses to be dis-
missed from the Hummingbird
household, played by Maxine Mc-
Neill, his newlywed wife, Mrs. El-
mer McManus, his parrot, brother-
in-law, played by Donald Mc-
Neill, his bachelor friend, Elwood
Harris, his charming niece, played
by Ruth Irwin, and even the but-
ler and maid, Marion Stoddard and
Barbara Hatt.The play was directed by Len
Stickdale. Mr. Williams had the
heaviest role and handled it in his
usual capable manner. Every
member of the cast gave fine por-
trayals of their parts.Elks' Movie Will
Be Here Mar. 8-10"Mousters of Men," an Elks
moving picture, featuring George
Taurie, will be shown in La
Grande Mar. 8, 9 and 10, jointly
by the Colonial theatre and the
B. P. O. Elks lodge of this city.
The picture is a Ralph Ince pro-
duction and the story was written
by the editor of the Elks maga-
zine, John Chapman Hilder. The
picture is for everyone, but espe-
cially pertaining to Elksdom.Proceeds of the show will go
into the Elks Christmas tree fund.New French Treaty
Approved by BoardWASHINGTON, Feb. 29 (AP)—
The new French arbitration treaty
was approved today by the senate
foreign relations committee.Cambrian Concert Company To Give
Program at M. E. Church This EveningOne of the leading musical events
to take place here this winter is the
program of the Cambrian Concert
company, three Welsh singers, who
have just recently returned from
successful engagements in Euro-
pean cities and are this winter
touring the United States. They are
appearing under the auspices of the
Methodist Episcopal church at the
church auditorium tonight and will
begin their program at 8 o'clock.
A truly fine program, one that
includes such loved numbers as
"The Lass with the Delicate Air,"
"The Melba Waltz Song" and se-
lections from such operas as "Pagli-
acci" and oratorios as Haydn's "Cre-
ation" which they will present, be-
speaks their musical intelligence
and ability which is heralded inTwo Leap Year
Babies Born In
La Grande TodayGirl Born to Mr. and Mrs.
August Hoffman, Boy
Arrives at George Nea-
beack Home.When Miss Mariline Jean Hoff-
man, who by the time most Ob-
server readers are absorbing the
day's news, will be all of 12 hours
old, made her debut into this world
at five o'clock this morning, she
was blissfully unaware that she
had won local fame by being "La
Grande's Leap Year Baby Girl."Likewise eight-pound Baby Nea-
beack made his appearance at
exactly the same hour this morning,
seemingly unperturbed by the fact
that he had leaped into fame by
being the local leap year baby boy.However, it was suspected that
a few of the healthy cries emitted
by the one-day-olds who appeared
almost simultaneously, one at a
home in the far end of North La
Grande and the other in far South
La Grande, were due to the fact
that they didn't like the idea of
missing out on their annual birth-
day cake. Only every fourth year
will these two tots actually cele-
brate their birthday. "Tough, I
call it," petite Miss Hoffman must
have bawled this morning to her
young "twin" fellow sufferer. "You
said it, sister," answered chubby
Master Neabeck, as he screwed
up his face in a long-drawn wail.La Grande apparently found
favor with the work on his morn-
ing round today for her number
of Leap Year babies lead most
Oregon cities her size. Evidently
in a capricious mood, the stars
left both babies at the hour of
five o'clock, one to Mr. and Mrs.
August E. Hoffman at the Chris-
tian church home at the end of
South Second street, and the other
to Mr. and Mrs. George W. Nea-
beack, at 1013 North Spruce.Mr. Hoffman is connected with
the Blue Mountain fur and
feathers store, and they make their home
at the annual farm in Mill canyon.
This is their second daughter, the
first one being 14 years old.This is also Mr. and Mrs. Nea-
beack's second child.LONDON, Feb. 29 (AP)—The
stock broke all records at Queen
Charlotte's, London's largest mat-
ernity hospital, delivering 10 Leap
Year babies before noon today. As
a rule the half-day average is
only three.PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 29 (AP)—
Mrs. Charles Rann, aged 35, was
celebrating her eighth birthday
"anniversary" today, because she
arrived as a Leap Year baby in
1892. After her first "anniversary"
in 1898 she had to wait eight years
for the next, in 1906, because there
was no Leap Year in 1900, due to
calendar readjustment at the end
of the century.MELROSE, Ore., Feb. 29 (AP)—
The stock brought a seven-penn-
ny baby—a Leap Year baby—to
the home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis
Clark, whose next birthday will be
in 1922.Horses, Cows Go
At Good Prices
In Hamann SaleOne of the most successful pub-
lic sales in the Grande Ronde val-
ley in several years took place Sat-
urday at the Arthur Hamann farm
on the Cove highway, which Charles
Carter recently purchased.
Tom Johnson was auctioneer and
J. E. Reynolds served as clerk. The
total of the sale was \$250 above
Mr. Hamann's estimate.The horses and cows both were
sold at excellent prices, it being
reported that the sums paid for the
horses was the best for several
years in the county.The sale was an all-day affair,
latterly held at noon. A large
crowd was in attendance.
Mr. Hamann will move from the
farm as soon as his new home at
Island City is completed. The
building work has already been
started.Hoss To Give Up
Position TomorrowSALEM, Ore., Feb. 29 (AP)—
Today will be the last in the office
of private secretary to the governor
for Hal E. Hoss, whose resignation
was announced two weeks ago.
Hoss resigned so that he may give
full time to his candidacy for sec-
retary of state. Governor Foster
has not yet appointed Hoss' successor.Milk To Cost More
In Pendleton, Ore.PENDLETON, Feb. 29 (AP)—
Milk prices will rise in Pendleton
tomorrow from 10 to 12 cents a
quart at grocery stores, according
to members of the recently formed
Pendleton Dairyman's association.
Dairyman stated that this was nec-
essary due to the demand for a
high standard of milk. M. Mytting-
er is president of the local organ-
ization.COOLIDGE AND
McNARY TALK
FARM RELIEFOregon Senator Confers
with President Today
on LegislationEQUALIZATION FEE
TO BE MODIFIEDExpects Coolidge's Objec-
tions of Last Year to Be
Changed by Bill's Alter-
ations.WASHINGTON, Feb. 29 (AP)—
Over the protest of one of its re-
publican members, Williams, of Il-
linois, the house agriculture com-
mittee today temporarily re-opened
hearings on the McNary-Haugen
farm relief bill to permit a num-
ber of members of the Minnesota
congressional delegation to testify
in favor of the equalization fee pro-
vision.At the request of President Cool-
idge, Senator McNary, republican
Oregon, called at the White House
today to discuss the status of farm
legislation in congress and to give
the executive his own views on the
subject.After the conference the sena-
tor said he had told the president
that while he had amended his
own measure somewhat, he had
not omitted the equalization fee
provision.It was largely to this feature
which President Coolidge objected
when he vetoed the McNary-Haugen
bill last year.President Coolidge also con-
ferred with Representative Purnell,
republican, Indiana, on farm legis-
lation and Purnell said afterward
that he had told the president
that he would begin next Monday
to draft a bill which the com-
mittee hoped would meet all the ob-
jections to the McNary-Haugen
bill which was vetoed last year.

Modify Bill

The equalization fee in the pro-
posed house bill, he said, would
be so modified as to eliminate
many of the features which
prompted President Coolidge's ob-
jection to it last year.

The house committee propos-

(Continued on Page 5)

Legion Meeting,
Dance Held At
North PowderWith approximately 30 couples
attending, the dance given by the
North Powder legion post for dis-
trict legionnaires and ex-service
men and their wives last night was
adjudged an entire success by those
who attended from La Grande. The
local post was well represented at
the dance, which was given to en-
courage social activities in the dis-
trict and to stimulate interest in
the North Powder post. Twenty-
nine La Grande legion members
and wives attended. Nine from
Baker attended. The dance was
held at the Bonanza theatre, com-
munity building at North Powder, with
music furnished by a Baker or-
chestra. During the evening a
short speaking and musical pro-
gram took place, with District
Committee man Otis Palmer, of La
Grande, acting as chairman. Talks
were heard from Hugh E. Brady
of the La Grande post, members
of the La Grande post's executive
board; Robert C. Ayers, adjutant
for the La Grande organization;
William Kelly, of Baker, grand
chief de gear of the 40 and 8, and
Mrs. Kelly, state vice president of
the auxiliary.Raymond G. Williams sang two
selections which were well received.
A feature of the entertainment was
the exhibition of a remarkably
trained dog, the pet of Mr. Harris,
of North Powder.Officers, Employees
Of Bank in SessionThe Officers and Employees' club
of the La Grande National bank
held its monthly meeting last night
at the bank, with H. A. Zurbick,
president, leading the evening's
study hour. Following the short
business meeting the course in com-
mercial law, which the club is
studying, was taken up again and
was handled in a forum fashion.
The club ordinarily meets on the
second Tuesday of each month but
this month was postponed a week
because of the death of Mr. Zur-
bick's father. It will meet again
on March 12.Hoss To Give Up
Position TomorrowSALEM, Ore., Feb. 29 (AP)—
Today will be the last in the office
of private secretary to the governor
for Hal E. Hoss, whose resignation
was announced two weeks ago.
Hoss resigned so that he may give
full time to his candidacy for sec-
retary of state. Governor Foster
has not yet appointed Hoss' successor.Milk To Cost More
In Pendleton, Ore.PENDLETON, Feb. 29 (AP)—
Milk prices will rise in Pendleton
tomorrow from 10 to 12 cents a
quart at grocery stores, according
to members of the recently formed
Pendleton Dairyman's association.
Dairyman stated that this was nec-
essary due to the demand for a
high standard of milk. M. Mytting-
er is president of the local organ-
ization.

NEW CONSUL

Asahi Yatsui, Japan's new con-
sul, has arrived and taken up his
duties at Portland, Ore.GIANT DIRIGIBLE
ARRIVES AT CUBALone Eagle Flies to Sche-
nectady—Navy Search-
ing for Missing MenWASHINGTON, Feb. 29 (AP)—
The dirigible Los Angeles com-
pleted her trip from France field,
Panama to Guacanayabo bay at
1:15 o'clock, casting a shadow on
the time when she moored on the
naval air craft tender Patoka, a
radio dispatch to the navy depart-
ment said.WASHINGTON, Feb. 29 (AP)—
Lieut. Commander C. E. Townsend,
commander of the dirigible Los An-
geles, informed the navy depart-
ment that he expected to shove off
from the naval tender Patoka in
Guacanayabo bay, Cuba, for Lake-
hurst, N. J., the home port, at 4
o'clock this afternoon. He said he
expected the Los Angeles to ar-
rive home Thursday afternoon.Schenectady, N. Y., Feb. 29
(AP)—Col. Charles A. Lindbergh
and his companions, bound from
New York for Albany by airplane,
landed at the Schenectady airport
shortly before noon today.Col. Lindbergh said that he
landed here instead of at the Al-
bany airport, because he feared
and the cross winds blowing at
Albany might make a descent dan-
gerous. Colonel Lindbergh and his
party started to Albany by auto-
mobile.WASHINGTON, Feb. 29 (AP)—
The navy, cognizant of its great
losses in recent years in aviation
rank, is conducting the greatest
aerial search in its history with
the hope of retrieving from an al-
most certain death three more of
its gallant lieutenants.With the break of dawn, 32 navy
and marine corps planes and two
army bombers were under orders to
intensely the search, conducted all
day yesterday in vain, for Com-
mander T. C. Elyson, Lieut. Com-
mander Schmidt, and Lieut.
Rogers Tanshousen, missing since
they took off from the Norfolk
base at 2 o'clock Monday morning
for Annapolis.Officers, Employees
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high standard of milk. M. Mytting-
er is president of the local organ-
ization.Woman Tells Of
Husband, Others
Robbing TrainKindness by Police Offi-
cer Causes Wife of One
of Ring Leaders to Con-
fess.CHICAGO, Feb. 29 (AP)—A
police officer last night offered to
take care of Mrs. Katherine Cleav-
er's car and her dog while she
is detained in the Evergreen Park
mail train robbery investigation.
Seventeen minutes later she fed
him details on which a fed-
eral grand jury indicted her hus-
band, Charles (Limpy) Cleaver,
William Donovan and Frank (Bo-
zo) Meccia."I was kind to her, that's how I
got Katherine Cleaver's confession,"
said Lieut. Michael Naughton.
"She reminded, as I sat there, of
my own mother. I wouldn't want
to know she was lying. I told Mrs.
Cleaver so. Then she began to cry.
"You are very kind," she said.
Then she told her story."Lieut. Naughton, a police depart-
ment ace, was called upon for aid
after post office inspectors who
are in charge of the case, reported
themselves unable to make head-
way in their questioning of sus-
pects. Police who had made the
original arrests, insisted they had
obtained three confessions, backed
by evidence. But federal men said
that there were many missing links
in the evidence police had turned
over to them.F. N. Davis, a postal inspector,
and Policewoman Millie Brady
were present when Mrs. Cleaver
made her statement to Lieut.
Naughton.Tells of Plotting
Mrs. Cleaver's story was that she
overheard Cleaver, Donovan, Meccia
and three others, whose names
have been withheld, plotting on the
night of Feb. 26. The night before
the robbery another conference was
held at the Cleaver home, she said,
at which details were completed.
Meccia, she said, brought along
the two sticks of dynamite used in
blowing the safe of the Grand
Trunk mail car. Cleaver furnished
disguises—hunting suits and masks,
she said.At 2 o'clock on the morning of
the robbery—Feb. 26—Mrs. Cleav-
er said she got breakfast for the
men. Her statement related that
she made packages and in prepar-
ing them scraped the bottom of
her floor bin. It was in this bin
20 hours later that police found
(Continued on Page 5)Trio Accused In
Overbeck, Cooke
InvestigationPORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 29 (AP)—
J. C. Gillingham, receiver for the
defunct brokerage house of Over-
beck and Cooke, announced today
through his attorneys, that investi-
gation of the firm's books revealed
that James P. Cooke, president,
took \$123,377.25 of the customers'
funds for his own use in a three-
year period without returning any
of the amount.Cash withdrawal slips also dis-
closed, according to Gillingham,
that Charles S. Goodwin, vice pres-
ident of the firm, withdrew \$12-
246.40.Howard F. Philpot, secretary,
was shown to have withdrawn
\$43,240.00.Gillingham said the withdrawals
were made without formally
signing any notes or I. O. U's.Gillingham said he would turn
the information over to the district
attorney's office. The three offi-
cials are under indictments charg-
ing larceny by bailor.Jobless Man Finds
\$52,000; Returns ItNEW YORK, Feb. 29 (AP)—
Jobless for several weeks, Alex-
ander Labowsky, 40-year-old
painter, found a sack containing
\$52,000 lying in a gutter in the
Brooklyn and returned it to its
owners.Today he has a first class
reputation for honesty, still no
job, and no definite prospect of
a reward.Millions Gained and Lost on Leap
Year Day; Landlords Out \$4,000,000NEW YORK, Feb. 29 (AP)—The
New York World today estimates
that millions of dollars will be lost
and gained as a result of Leap
Year day.For example, the newspaper says,
the man who pays a yearly ren-
tal of \$1,200 for his apartment is
ordinarily spending \$4.29 a day for
a year of 365 days. Then along
comes Leap Year and the tenant is
\$2.29 to the good. The landlord's
loss and the tenant's gain in New
York City alone, the World esti-
mates, is \$4,000,000.

On the other hand, the