

CITY EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER OREGON: Cloudy tonight and Wednesday, probably rain in western part; moderate temperature.

VOLUME XXVI.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

LA GRANDE, OREGON, TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 1928.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBER 180

I AM GIVES; HUNDREDS PERISH

RAIL TRAVEL FROM ELGIN ON BLOCKED

Large Landslide Buries O-W. Tracks Between Vincent and Minam

MAY BE CLEARED TOMORROW NIGHT

Auto Transportation Over State Highways Continuing—Dirt Roads in the Valley in Bad Shape

Travel on the branch line railway beyond Elgin is entirely suspended for a few days as the result of a large landslide that occurred Sunday between Vincent and Minam, burying the track for a stretch of 125 feet. No one was injured in the huge slide, mostly of rock, which is piled 25 feet high.

A crew of 125 men is working steadily to clear the rock in as few days as possible, but no definite date has been set this morning by railroad authorities for opening the line again, though it may be cleared by tomorrow night.

Safeguarding of the ground by spring throwing was given by railroad authorities as the reason for the slide of the heavy rock from the mountainside.

Trail Travel to Elgin The branch line motor car has been going out regularly, however, traveling as far as Elgin. "We can't say definitely when the track will be clear," said J. H. Kenney, station agent this morning.

This is the most serious slide to occur in this part of Eastern Oregon for several years and comes at a time when flood waters are still doing their worst work on all state highways. The La Grande-Wallowa Lake highway does not run parallel to the railroad tracks at the place of the branch line slide, so that slides are going into Joseph from here regularly. Drivers however, report occasional rock falling onto the highway in the mountainous portions of this and Wallowa county which the branch line highway traverses.

Careful driving is required on the Old Oregon Trail west of here, there being places where the high way is badly rutted and heaved as a result of the frost. Although the road is not muddy like it was a year ago this time when the frost went out of the ground and the bottom of the roadbed with it at Glover flat, the ruts are deep and there are numerous high centers making careful driving necessary.

The worst section is this side of the Meacham viaduct, along the lower ground where the drainage is poor, although the same condition, only not quite as bad, is found on a low section near Glover flat.

The La Grande-Wallowa Lake highway was reported to be in good condition for this season of the year by H. G. Smith, highway engineer, although there is about 50 feet of highway this side of Elgin where there are frost heaves. There have been several minor slides on the Minam hill, which have resulted in broken guard fence in several places, but no serious damage has been done.

East of here the highway between Baker and Haines is rutted considerably, but the frost is about gone out of the roadbed in that section and the road is getting better, Mr. Smith says.

ENGLENE Ore., Mar. 12. (AP)—A slide, which deposited 1600 yards of rock, earth and debris on the Southern Pacific railroad tracks occurred this morning between Elgin and Wicoupe, 20 miles from Englene on the Eugene-Klamath Falls cut-off.

Attendance Large At L. D. S. Meeting There was a 99 per cent attendance of all students and teachers of the Intoler Sunday school of the L. D. S. church Sunday when the school held its annual conference. R. Z. Baxter, of La Grande, superintendent of the stake Sunday school board of the L. D. S. church, went to Imbler for the annual conference. Daniel Westaway is president of the Sunday school which reviewed a successful year. A program of music and class demonstrations was enjoyed during the large meeting.

Attendance At Guard Drill Is Showing Gains Attendance in Company E, 186th Infantry is steadily increasing, according to Capt. W. A. Bean, commanding officer of the La Grande unit of the Oregon national guard.

At present the company's strength is three commissioned officers and 65 non-commissioned officers and privates—the regular maintenance strength. The company's strength has been nearly constant at 65 for the last year, a mark which is regarded as better than normal.

During February the company's attendance record was 75.5, which is regarded in regimental headquarters as very satisfactory, placing the local guardsmen in class A. During January the record was 75, the following month showing nearly one per cent increase.

Last night 22 guardsmen were in attendance, only 13 being absent, a percentage for the night of 89.

Four promotions were announced, the result of recent competitive examinations. Corporal Carl Elbert was promoted to sergeant and Privates Ted Klein, Dallas Green and Douglas Kline were promoted to corporals.

From now on a large share of the regular drills will be devoted to training preliminary to the annual encampment, which will be held in Camp Clatsop, mid-way between Astoria and Seaside, during the month of June.

Wallowa Team On Way to Tourney "Well, by the best we can make a good showing for the district." With this parting promise Charles K. Dawson, Wallowa coach, and his championship squad of eight teenage boys, left on train No. 24 last night for Salem where they will join nine other champion teams in the annual tourney to decide the state title.

A practice at the L. D. S. gym and assemblies at the Union and La Grande High schools where they were guests of honor were highlights of their stop here yesterday. Coach Dawson talked at the local assembly where the Wallowa team was named on the stage. The coach thanked the high school for courtesy to the team and promised a good showing at the tournament.

Believes Dairy Expansion Due In This Valley C. C. Gignoux, U. P. Agriculturist, S. L. Thompson Speak At Forum Luncheon Today

Interesting talks by C. C. Gignoux, of the Union Pacific agricultural department, and S. L. Thompson, of the Eastern Oregon Credit Rating association, made up the program at the forum luncheon of the Union county chamber of commerce today at noon at the La Grande hotel.

Believes Dairy Expansion Due In This Valley

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Mr. Gignoux discussed agriculture in general as pertaining to the Grande Ronde valley and complimented the chamber and the valley in general on its dairying program. "There is much room for expansion here," he said, predicting that this development will come about. He said that the Grande Ronde possesses many splendid advantages for dairying and also said that he favored the condensing of hay, etc., into dairying and poultry products. In this connection he cited conditions in Idaho, declaring that poultry and dairying products have successfully supplanted heavy hay shipments with better profits to the producer. Mr. Gignoux also praised the cow testing movement, and mentioned the seed potato as one of the new agricultural developments in this valley. He declared that there is a big market over the west for seed potatoes.

Mr. Gignoux said that the agriculture is getting more brains daily and that the one-crop farmers are gradually "starving out," with a few exceptions.

Talks of Credit Bureau Mr. Thompson touched in an interesting manner upon the work of the credit bureau, explaining the methods used in determining a man's credit. A man's credit is based on his paying habits over a period of years, he said.

The speaker asserted that an efficient credit bureau, conducted right, is a distinct asset to any city.

Mr. Thompson said that a movement is now under way to present an ordinance to the city commission designed to stop people from leaving unpaid accounts without leaving their future address.

State Highways Open Dirt roads in this valley are nearly impassable although auto transportation is continuing on all state highways. The La Grande-Wallowa Lake highway does not run parallel to the railroad tracks at the place of the branch line slide, so that slides are going into Joseph from here regularly. Drivers however, report occasional rock falling onto the highway in the mountainous portions of this and Wallowa county which the branch line highway traverses.

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BEST RUNNER?



Arthur F. H. Newton, Rhodesia, is one of the Pike coast-to-coast marathon entrants. He holds amateur records from 10 to 100 miles and over the weekend led all of the cross-continental runners in total elapsed time.

PEACE OFFICERS MEET IN BAKER

La Grande Sends 12 to Sister City—Discuss Law Enforcement Problems

La Grande was nearly a deserted city yesterday, as far as government officers were concerned. Five members of the police force, three from the sheriff's office, two judges, the district attorney and the state traffic officers were all in attendance at the March meeting of the Eastern Oregon Peace Officers Co-Operative association in Baker.

The meeting convened in the Baker court house at 11 o'clock in the morning, with Chief Baker, president of the La Grande, presiding. Mayor Messick, of Baker, gave a welcoming talk and Mr. Haynes responded after which the officers adjourned to the Geiser Grand hotel for a luncheon.

Recommencing at 1 o'clock, the afternoon was spent in discussing law enforcement problems and in a business session.

Circuit Judge C. H. McCulloch, of Baker, delivered an interesting speech discussing the importance of good officers and the kind of testimony that makes the most favorable impression on juries. "Testimony should not show any evidence of prejudice or malice, he said, and he urged all officers to refrain from giving any testimony of which they were doubtful as to its complete truth.

Several Speakers William North, secretary of the Baker chamber of commerce, introduced as the Baker live wire, gave a very interesting talk on organization and their problems. Carl Fitch, La Grande district attorney, described the prosecution of cases from a district attorney's viewpoint. Walter Lansing, Baker state traffic officer, touched upon the value of statistics of car thefts and associated crimes to law enforcement officers. Leland Finch, Baker district attorney, spoke on changes in laws advocated by district attorneys of Oregon in a recent convention in Portland and Judge H. E. Brady, of La Grande, told of changes advocated by justices of the peace of Oregon regarding their office. He

(Continued on Page 4)

WIFE IS ANXIOUS LONDON, March 12. (AP)—Mrs. Hinchliffe informed the Associated Press late today that she believed

Mr. Siegrist Is Named Country Club President William Siegrist was elected president of the La Grande Country club for 1928-29 last evening

Plans for the coming year were discussed during the meeting, and reports of committees for the past year were heard.

The board of directors is composed of 15 members, five of whom are elected each year. The board this year includes S. D. Crowe, W. C. Perkins, William Siegrist, H. N. Ashby, J. K. Kinzle, C. A. Binkman, Dr. A. L. Richardson, H. E. Dixon, Chase Bohlenkamp, A. J. Stango, G. L. Larson, F. L. Meyers, Charles Reynolds, Elmer Stoddard and H. M. Bay.

Spring Styles Shown To Large Audience by Local Penney Store

A large audience at the Arcade theater last night enjoyed the J. C. Penney company style show in which a dozen young women and children presented "The Drama of Style" amid a beautiful setting.

Women last night who saw the vogue in morning, afternoon and evening frocks for this season cheered with enjoyment after the performance as they discussed the merits of the ensemble, its charm of the "cape" collar, or perhaps the smartness of the tailored suit, this year softened with becoming necks or flowers.

Several styles of the ensemble, including the short coat sport ensemble or the dress ensemble in popular black suits won applause. Trim navy blue suits and tan suits in both single and double breasted styles were attractive. Bouffant evening frocks in taffeta, many of them with uneven hem lines, were charming, especially one of sprigged satin.

Black and navy blue, their somberness relieved by colorful accessories were favorites in colors, against smart bright reds, royal blue, dark colors in popularity, and shades of green and blue favored. The printed material, if one is to judge by the many attractive styles shown last night, will enjoy a popu-

lar season this year both in afternoon frocks and sport wear. Felt hats covered with printed chiffon were popular.

Plain colored coats in both dark and lighter shades, many of them with belts and some with cape effects, with fur popular, were shown.

The Misses Ruth Bramwell, Ruth Irwin, Lila Bean, Jane Stange, Virginia Warnick and Mrs. Andrus Playle modeled these frocks.

Charming little Miss Ann Stoddard and Bobby Stevens showed tiny tots wash dresses and suits. Master Stevens, who is "knee-high to a grasshopper" but whose extreme youth didn't seem to bother his stage presence, immediately won the audience. Bobby spoke a piece and then made a final hit with an extra bow.

BRITISH ACE WINGING WAY TO NEW YORK

Captain Hinchliffe Starts Daring Attempt to Conquer the Atlantic

SECRECY VEILS TAKE OFF TODAY

Elsie Mackay May Be His Companion—Inquiries Fail To Reveal Her Whereabouts

LONDON, March 12. (AP)—Off on a daring attempt to conquer the Atlantic Captain Walter Hinchliffe, one of England's brilliant aviators, sped from Cranwell airfield at 8:40 o'clock this morning in his American built plane "The Adventure."

The mystery that attached to the take-off which was made with the utmost secrecy, was further complicated by the presence of a mysterious passenger that may possibly have been the honorable Elsie Mackay, daughter of Lord Inchcape.

Although first reports said that Captain Gordon Sinclair, a reserve pilot, was in the plane, there was no positive confirmation of his being part of the Atlantic flight were first announced, it was reported by Miss Mackay, who has supplied the project financially, would sail on the trip, but she promptly denied any intention of doing so.

Inquiries at Mackay's home this evening, however, failed to elicit any information concerning her whereabouts.

A plane believed to be "The Adventure" was reported this afternoon over Ireland, flying in a westerly direction.

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Miss Joan Hunt and Miss Elizabeth Milne modeled attractive styles for school girls. As an added feature of the program Miss Joan did a clever Charleston dance.

Men's clothes were shown by Edward Buchanan and Henry Culp, who, following the style show had a short act. Weeks & Buchanan showed a Chrysler 62 model as a finale to the show, which is to be repeated again tonight.

All the models worn are from the local store.

Dental Society Will Meet Here In March, 1929

Dr. R. F. Murphy Elected Secretary At Boise Yesterday—Joint Sessions End Today

BOISE, Idaho, March 12.—Dr. Roy E. Tate, Baker, was elected president of the Eastern Oregon Dental society at its meeting in Boise, Monday. Dr. R. F. Murphy of La Grande, was chosen secretary. The Oregon society is meeting today for the two organizations to gather jointly for the mid-winter clinic.

The next joint meeting will be held in La Grande in March, 1929. The banquet was held Monday night at the Idaho Country club, followed by addresses and a program of music and stunts.

The sessions opened Monday morning in the school administration building, with an address of welcome by Dr. P. N. Westfall of Caldwell in the absence of Dr. M. A. Gould of Nampa, Dr. R. N. Packard of Ashton, Idaho, and Dr. A. C. Miller of St. Anthony, demonstrated denture construction. In the afternoon a table clinic was conducted by Dr. R. G. Loest of Twin Falls.

The meeting will conclude today with a continuation of clinic work, and discussions.

High School To Present Spring Exhibit of Styles

A spring style show to be given next Friday afternoon at the high school by the domestic art department, headed by Miss Ann Arnold, in which 60 domestic art students will model dresses which they have made themselves, is being anticipated by both the A. G. S. organization and mothers and friends of the students. The show is an innovation to the school and will represent extra work on the part of the students.

Trim frocks in cotton prints and plain materials for summer wear, wool school dresses, afternoon frocks, featuring several of the new print materials, and pajamas will be shown. Music is being provided by "Hats," an orchestra composed of high school boys, and which promises to be an outstanding program of the year relative to student work.

Miss Arnold, in an introductory talk, will outline the work of the year and explain many interesting features of her department. Two students, Miss Mary Gould Parsons and Miss Ruth Irwin, will make talks in which they will explain the merits of the course.

All mothers and friends are invited to attend the style show, which promises to be an outstanding program of the year relative to student work.

Two La Grande Men Injured At Rieth

Two La Grande men, Boyd Pidecock and Joe Pearson, were injured Saturday at Rieth when they were thrown from the back end of a car in the railroad yards there. Mr. Pearson was brought home to La Grande Sunday and is injured about the face and may have a broken rib. Mr. Pidecock is in the St. Francis hospital at Pendleton and will not be able to be moved from there for several days yet. He has a deep gash over his right ear and other head injuries. It was at first believed that his skull was fractured, but X-ray pictures were taken and no fracture was found.

Mr. Pidecock was knocked unconscious by the fall, according to the reports received here, and might have been killed under the wheels of a backing train had not Mr. Pearson dragged him from the tracks.

15 Children Hurt In Bus Accident

PORTLAND, Ore., Mar. 12. (AP)—Fifteen children were injured when two Oswego school buses, carrying 79 children went into a ditch this morning near Robinson.

Stock Exchange To Make Investigation

NEW YORK, March 12. (AP)—The New York stock exchange today began an investigation into reports of an alleged "technical corner" in the common stock of the Radio Corporation of America, which has advanced nearly 445 a share in the last seven trading sessions.

Radio corporation common opened today with a block of 25,000 shares at \$169 a share, an overnight gain of \$21.50.

A. W. MELLON REFUSED TO TAKE BONDS

Tells Teapot Dome Committee That He Returned \$50,000 to Hays

WAS DOUBTFUL OF THE TRANSACTION

Secretary Says the Bonds Came from Sinclair—Sought to Avoid Large G. O. P. Subscription

WASHINGTON, Mar. 12. (AP)—Will H. Hays, former postmaster general recalled as a witness today at the senate Teapot Dome committee, testified that he had sought to have Secretary Mellon and William M. Butler, chairman of the republican national committee accept bonds from him in 1923 and in their stead contribute toward wiping out the committee's 1920 deficit.

Both Mellon and Butler previously had testified they had rejected Hays' proposition.

Butler said he turned down the proposition flatly. He testified Hays asked him to give a \$25,000 contribution toward wiping out the 1920 campaign deficit and did not disclose whom the bonds came from.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 12. (AP)—Testifying under oath today before the senate Teapot Dome committee, Secretary Mellon said that Will H. Hays in 1923 told him he had received a batch of bonds from Harry F. Sinclair to be used in wiping out the republican national committee campaign debt of 1920.

Mellon said he declined to take \$25,000 in bonds from Sinclair on the ground that the deal would not be what it purported to be.

Mellon was placed under oath by Chairman Nye. The veteran cabinet officer's right hand wavered slightly as he held it aloft during the oath.

Hays Hears Testimony Hays, former chairman of the re-

(Continued on Page 5)

Seattle Girl Is Hindu; Takes Vow To Wed Ex-Ruler

NASIK, India, Mar. 12. (AP)—In this ancient holy city, an American girl today was converted from Christianity to Hinduism so that she might wed a former native ruler.

Miss Nancy Ann Miller, of Seattle, Wash., went through the conversion ceremony this morning. Saturday she will become the third wife of Tukojji Rao, former maharajah of Indore.

Appearing very sad as though the strange ceremonies imposed a considerable strain upon her, the American girl played the central part in Hindu religious rites performed in semi-privacy on the banks of the sacred river Godavary.

The Hindu priest who officiated placed a mark upon her brow and Blas Miller then performed the ceremony of public— or Hindu worship before a sacred fire of coals known as "agni." Then she bathed in Godavary waters.

The American girl was dressed in Indian attire and wore a richly embroidered sari, or loose flowing robe.

THIS BABY DIED 10 TIMES

NEA Los Angeles Bureau During the first seven weeks of its life, this little baby, the child of Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Olmstead, of Glendale, Cal., died ten times. The infant's heart acted as if it stopped beating on ten occasions, according to physicians, and each time the pulmonologist of the Los Angeles fire department managed to restore life. Now the child seems normal.

DISASTER APPALLING NEWHALL, Cal., Mar. 12. (AP)—San Franciscoquito canyon, yesterday one of the most beautiful in this section of the country today is buried under a layer of yellowish sand, ranging from a few feet to 30 feet in depth.

Citrus groves and small ranches with those who lived on them have been engulfed and interred or carried down the raging water course towards the sea at Ventura.

The water, which, when the dam broke, came tearing down the canyon a raging breastwork 75 feet high, at 7 o'clock had dropped to a harmless stream, winding its way through the yellow sand.

No Sign of Human Life Along the banks of the canyon were stray piles of hay, bits of wreckage, a wandering, homeless dog or two and here and there a bedraggled chicken, but not a single sign of human life.

Eugene Biscollux, under sheriff, who rushed here from Los Angeles surveyed the desolate scene and expressed the belief that beneath the yellow carpet that covered the valley are the remains of virtually every one of the more than 100 persons who lived in it. A few bodies he thought might have been swept towards the sea, and he di-

Partial List Of Victims Of Disaster

NEWHALL, Calif., March 12. (AP)—The following is a partial list of residents in the flooded area who are believed to have perished in the San Franciscoquito dam disaster. They are:

Harvey S. Berry and wife. Henry S. Mathies, his wife and two children. Henry J. Burns, his wife and two children. Griffith Hughes, his wife and two children. William E. Weinland, his wife and one child. Carl J. Mathews, his wife and three children. Ferrell K. Hopp, his wife and one child. Louis Burns, his wife and one child. Ray Reising, his wife and three children. D. C. Methews. Homer Coe, his wife and one child. Lyman Curtis, his wife and three children.

This group lived adjacent to the power house, swept away by the onrush of water when the dam broke.

The following lived in the club (Continued on Page 5)

125 BODIES RECOVERED, LAST REPORT