

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER
OREGON: Rain tonight and Thursday, continued fall. Strong southerly winds and occasional gales on the coast.

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LA GRANDE, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 1928.

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STANFIELD IN SECOND SUIT FILED HERE

Former Senator and Columbia Co. Defendants in Collection Action

PLAINTIFFS SEEK SUM OF \$664,634.98

First Suit Filed in La Grande Was An Action to Collect More Than a Million Dollars.

In the second major action for collection to be filed in the Union county circuit court against R. N. Stanfield and the Columbia Basin Wool Warehouse company within four months, Bowerman & Kavanaugh, Portland attorneys, representing the Security Savings & Trust, trustee, instituted a suit against Mr. Stanfield and the company Saturday for collection on a \$664,634.98 note.

Last December 24 C. C. Galt and Arthur Tucker filed an action to collect the largest sum ever mentioned in this circuit court. The amount was \$1,681,116. On this amount \$47,000 had been claimed, according to the complaint.

The action which was filed here Saturday states that Mr. Stanfield signed the note and gave it to the warehouse company who assigned it to the trustee as security for the payment of indebtedness to a number of creditors not named in the complaint.

The note was signed on Mar. 10, 1924, to mature in June, 1927, it is said.

Following is an excerpt from the complaint: "That on Mar. 10, 1924 the defendant, R. N. Stanfield, made, filed and delivered to the plaintiff a certain promissory note in writing of said date of which the following is in words and figures substantially a true copy: 'The words of the note followed.'

Why the suits, both of which involve amounts seldom heard of in Union county circuit court cases, should be filed in both cases in Union county, has not been explained, court officials say.

COURT CALENDAR FOR ADJOURNED TERM GIVEN

Judge J. W. Knowles today announced the following calendar for the adjourned term of Probate circuit court which he will open April 2:

April 2—James Henley vs. Lee Bouvy; Nichols, Hallock and Donald, plaintiff attorneys; Curry & Kerr and E. R. Ringo, defense attorneys. April 3, State of Oregon vs. Joe Patterson, Carl G. Helm, district attorney for state, and Green & Hess, attorneys for defendant. April 4, R. E. Slack vs. E. C. Meyers; E. D. Stater, plaintiff attorney; E. R. Ringo, defense attorney. April 4, State of Oregon vs. George Theodorak, Mr. Helm for state; R. J. Kitchin for defense. April 5, Wong Shug vs. Toy Young, et al; Nichols, Hallock and Donald, plaintiff attorneys; R. J. Kitchin, defense attorneys. April 5, the state vs. Harrison and Gertrude Davis, Mr. Helm for state. April 10, State of Oregon against Vernon White, Mr. Helm for state, and Green & Hess for defense.

(Continued on Page 5)

"THE FACT OF CALVARY" TOPIC OF TALK HERE

"The Fact of Calvary" was the subject on which Dr. George H. Hillerman spoke last evening, when he gave the fourth address of his one-week Lutheran mission at the English Lutheran church here. A large crowd gathered for the service.

"Between sin and its likeness and God and His righteousness there seemed no hope of reconciliation for the sinner, but on Calvary the solution and remedy was found," Dr. Hillerman told his audience. "Through it a full and complete satisfaction has been made for sin. Christ died for our sin, the scripture proclaims, and this was done before these sins were committed and covers them entirely. And in it God made all the advance. He did not wait for man's request or ascent, he laid down no conditions. But while men were yet sinners he loved them and sent His son for their redemption.

The character of this act is too supernatural not to be true. It is the darkest hour of Calvary and from the depths of Hell's agony God was still there and that agony has swayed the history of the world as no other thing has done.

Thursday evening Dr. Hillerman's subject will be "Fact of the Present." In this address he will discuss "What three questions every man should ask? What results come from giving God first place? What one thing only makes a success of life? What one thing more than any other seals condemnation?"

Stetson, Howard To Be Speakers At School Meet

Program Arranged for Annual Superintendents and Principals Session in La Grande.

Program arrangements for the annual meeting of the Eastern Oregon Superintendents and Principals' association, which will be held in La Grande Saturday, March 31, have been completed and were announced yesterday afternoon by J. T. Longfellow, superintendent of schools here.

The association includes seven Eastern Oregon counties and meets once each year. Superintendent H. E. Inlow of Pendleton, is president, and Austin Landreth, principal of the Pendleton high school, is secretary of the association. About 50 educators are expected to be in attendance at the meeting, which will open in the morning at 9:30 o'clock in the local high school building and will continue all day.

Professor F. J. Stetson, from the University of Oregon, C. A. Howard, state superintendent of public instruction, of Salem, and Superintendent Elmer P. Goodwin, of the McLoughlin Union High school at Milton-Freewater, will speak during the day. Superintendent Goodwin will open the meeting with an address on "The Development of School Morale." Professor Stetson will speak at 10:15 o'clock and Superintendent Howard will speak at 11 o'clock. Mr. Howard will also open the afternoon program, at 1:30 o'clock, with an address.

The business session will begin at 2:15 o'clock. During this time plans will be discussed and the dates determined for the annual Eastern Oregon track and field meet. Officers will be elected for the next year and reports of committees will be heard.

Legionnaires Of Three Counties To Meet Tonight

American Legion members from Baker, Union and Willowa counties will meet tonight at 7:30 o'clock at the Sycamore Inn when plans for the organization of the proposed Tri-County Council of American Legion posts will be brought up. Raymond O. Williams, of the La Grande post, who is chairman of the committee composed of La Grande post, who is chairman of Grande men which has been working toward that end, will preside at tonight's meeting. Members of the committee and officers of the local post will represent La Grande tonight at the hotel dining room.

Two Scout Troops In Joint Meeting

Boy scout troops 19 and 13 met tonight in the basement of the Presbyterian church last night in a joint session. Dr. W. T. Phay, Dr. Ray Murphy, the Rev. J. George Walz, W. C. Perkins, Adolph Siegrist, E. Russell Scott and Ernest Heanster, scoutmaster of Troop No. 19, were present and about 45 boys were in attendance.

The meeting was presided by Troop No. 14 with Troop No. 13 as guest. Dr. Phay talked on things boys could do in scouting and he offered the best information he can buy for the scout who gets the most new members this year. Several of the boys spoke, telling of future plans, including mention of the coming summer camp on Catherine creek.

Cove Ordination Service Tomorrow

COVE, Ore., Mar. 21 (Special)—There will be an ordination service at the Baptist church on Thursday, Mar. 22. Delegates are expected from over all the state and many members of the ministerial association are also expected. The service will be held at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and there will also be an evening service. The visitors will be served lunch and dinner at the I. O. O. F. hall.

La Grande Man Wins Grading Contract

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Mar. 21 (AP)—W. J. Kelly, La Grande, with a bid of \$696 was low bidder of three for contract for grading the Pendleton federal air field. Bids were opened by Airways Engineer W. E. Kline of the Salt Lake division.

New York Girl Is Saved From Death

OTTAWA, Ont., Mar. 21 (AP)—Mrs. Doris McDonald, young New York girl, mentioned to hang on Friday, with her husband, for the murder of a Lachine taxi driver had her sentence commuted to life imprisonment today. Preparations were continued for the hanging of the husband, George McDonald.

2 DIRIGIBLES WILL EXCEED OTHER CRAFT

Navy Expects to Build Airships with Cruising Radius of 11,200 Miles

ADMIRAL MOFFETT DESCRIBES PLANS

Ships Would Be 782 Feet in Length and Carry a Crew of 16 Officers and 45 Men.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 21 (AP)—Navy plans for two new dirigibles, each two and one-half times as large as the Los Angeles, and with a maximum cruising radius of 11,200 nautical miles, were disclosed by Rear Admiral Moffett, naval air chief, in testimony on the annual naval department bill reported today to the house.

The ships would be 782 feet in length, 132 1/2 feet in diameter and designed to carry a crew of 16 officers and 45 men. They would have a maximum speed of 75 knots.

The committee allotted \$2,000,000 to start construction of the air liners which will cost a total of \$5,000,000. It is expected that the good year tire and rubber company of Akron, Ohio, will build the vessels.

"In an emergency such as arose recently in Nicaragua, where marine reinforcements were needed in a hurry," the admiral said, "one of these dirigibles could be quickly transported, 100 or more marines and made the trip in a fraction of the time taken by surface vessels.

Of Great Value "They would be of great value in acting as convoys," he continued, explaining that "submarines fear them more than they do any other type of ship."

"He added that they would be of great value in coast defense, as they could cover tremendous areas, and could be used for scouting at outposts, such as Hawaii.

Assistant Secretary Warner, in charge of naval aeronautics, also said the dirigibles would be of tremendous value in patrolling the Panama zone area.

Naval officers told the committee that heavier-than-air plans contemplated the provision of three air craft for each of the 18 battleships and that the 7,500-ton cruisers of the Omaha class now were equipped with two planes each.

STATE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC HEAVY

March Travel 25 Per Cent More Than in Preceding Month, Count Shows

Traffic over the state highways in this division showed an increase of about 25 per cent over last month, a count at various points all over the division last Sunday shows. Practically all of the reports from the count are now in the state highway offices here, and in every instance there was more travel on the highways this month than last.

It is believed, however, that the fact that the count was taken on Sunday and that the day was the warmest of the season was partly responsible for the increase.

The largest count taken was on the Oregon-Washington highway, between Pendleton and the Washington state line, where 234 cars were counted, 113 of which were Oregon cars and 123 foreign cars, mostly bearing Washington license plates.

Between La Grande and Hot Lake on the Old Oregon Trail highway 1156 cars were counted, a count.

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Warmest Day of Year Serves As A Prelude to the Arrival of Spring

Beginning today, one cannot with truth, say "This winter." Only in a farcical frame of mind would one be excused—and if such an occasion should occur the blame would, of course, be placed upon the weather man, that much maligned character who orders rain and snow and sunshine and hail and usually gets it C. O. D.

Officially, winter is a thing of the past. Actually, it has been beaten out for the last three days and longer.

Sunday, the weather took a turn for normal and Eastern Oregon sunshine and warmth reached a high mark of 69 above. Monday, the mercury went three degrees higher and yesterday, in spite of a breeze and some cloudiness during the day a maximum of 73 above was officially reported. Last night was also the warmest evening of 1928, with the minimum temperature 49 degrees above. And today?

Whereabouts Of Pine Bell Bank Cashier Mystery

Oregon Man Disappears While His Institution Is Under Examination by State Officials.

MEDFORD, Ore., Mar. 21 (AP)—Mystery still shrouds the fate of whereabouts of George W. Barker, president and cashier of the Pine Bell bank of Butte Falls, who disappeared Monday afternoon while his banking institution was under examination by the state banking examiners, and he faced questioning by members of the state insurance commission and state fire marshal's office relative to the destruction by fire of a warehouse last August at Central Point, in which the missing man had insured restaurant fixtures.

Search of an area near the Edmonson ranch, where a shot was reported to have been heard late Monday evening, this morning by a sheriff's posse, failed to find a single trace or clue. Wind and rain in the Butte Falls district this morning handicapped the hunt.

The authorities are also investigating reports that a number of Butte Falls residents saw Barker leaving in another automobile than the one abandoned in the heavy timber. Little credence is placed on the report.

Expected Letter J. J. Simmerville, merchant of Butte Falls, and close friend of the missing man for 29 years, said this morning over the long distance telephone: "I think Barker is on his road, and we have hopes that his wife will get a letter today. At least that is what we are all hoping."

According to his friends, Barker was a man of extreme nervous irritability and has been restless for the last two weeks. They believe that he became panic stricken by the visit of the state insurance investigator and fire marshals and fled, on the spur of the moment.

The district attorney's office issued a statement saying that Barker, who was an insurance agent, had written a policy on confectionery store fixtures for \$26,000 which was refused; that another policy for the same amount was written in another company and eventually reduced to \$10,000. The fixtures were stored in a warehouse at Central Point, which was destroyed by fire last August. Deputy insurance commissioner James Goodman admitted that he intended to question Barker on the matter.

Demurrer Filed in J. Slavinsky Case

A demurrer filed yesterday in circuit court by E. Denham against the grand jury indictment of John Slavinsky was sustained by Judge J. W. Knowles, who subsequently referred the case back to grand jury which gave into consideration the case. Slavinsky is charged with obtaining money by false pretenses. He was arraigned before Judge Knowles Monday and the time of his pleading set for yesterday. Instead, the demurrer was filed against the indictment, charging that there was not sufficient cause for the indictment.

Miss Morton Talks At Rotary Meeting

Miss Mabel E. Morton, valley news editor of The Observer, was the speaker at the Rotary club luncheon at the La Grande club today at noon, describing her work in covering the farms and towns of the valley for news. Miss Morton said that her work was unique among the newspapers of this state and told of her home-to-home calls and her attendance at various organizations and community meetings throughout the valley. She has driven over 20,000 miles since June in her news work in the valley. Her talk was pronounced extremely interesting and acquainted Rotarians with an unusual feature of The Observer. Miss Morton was introduced by Chairman Ray Murphy, of the program committee.

Hints At "Slush Fund" of Big Size

WASHINGTON, Mar. 21 (AP)—The assertion that efforts had been made to collect a "slush fund" to influence public utilities legislation which he said "would bogger" anything of his kind ever disclosed in the history of the country was made in the senate today by Senator Johnson, republican, California.

At the same time Senator Walsh, Democrat, Montana, charged that public utilities associations were subsidizing lecturers and professors in colleges "to instill in the minds of the youth of the land their peculiar views of public questions."

Boy, 7, Runs Away; Afraid To Face Mother

SALEM, Ore., Mar. 21 (AP)—The story of a little boy who ran away from home rather than face a disapproving mother was slowly unfolded to Salem police officers today.

The taken in handcuffed youngster was finally paid to his mother late last night as he wandered aimlessly in the streets without hat and clad in overalls, but it was not until today that officers found that his name was Biney Ellington and that his home is in Hillsboro. He admitted that he had run up bills on merchants in Hillsboro. He is seven years of age.

U. S. To Supervise Nicaragua Voting

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Mar. 21 (AP)—President Diaz signed a decree today establishing American supervision of the national elections in Nicaragua in October.

SAVED FROM DEATH



Doris McDonald and her husband, George, who were to be hanged at the Valleyfield prison, Quebec, for the murder of Adelard Bonchard, Montreal taxi driver, were rescued from execution today when their sentence was commuted to life imprisonment today. Her husband, however, must hang. A few days ago McDonald signed an affidavit that she had no part in the murder. The McDonalds formerly lived in the United States.

Coolidge Gives Medal of Honor To Lone Eagle

WASHINGTON, Mar. 21 (AP)—President Coolidge today placed personally about the shoulders of Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh the blue ribbon of the congressional medal of honor, rarest of American tributes to courage and initiative. Surrounded by the highest public officials in the executive department and by republican and democratic congressional leaders, President Coolidge conferred the decoration for "heroic courage and great skill" in the Lindbergh flight from New York to Paris.

"I offer you my heartiest congratulations," the president said, after conferring the medal. The presentation took place on the lawn outside the president's private office. Mrs. Coolidge witnessed it from a window of the White House.

Al Smith Drops Silence Cloak; Gives Consent

ALBANY, N. Y., Mar. 21 (AP)—Governor Smith has stepped into the arena of professed presidential aspirations.

"Thinking aside the cloak of silence toward national politics, he has consented to the use of his name in the Massachusetts presidential primaries.

Wilkins' Plane Arrives Safely At North Point

SEWARD, Alaska, Mar. 21 (AP)—Captain George H. Wilkins, Australian aviator, explorer and Lieut. Carl Roy Eklund, his Alaskan pilot, are safe at Point Barrow preparing for their contemplated flight into the arctic "blind spot" en route to Spitzbergen on the other side of the north pole.

Fears that they had met with disaster Monday at the end of their hazardous 500-mile hop from Fairbanks to Point Barrow, were allayed when Wilkins reestablished communication with Seward last night.

Last night Wilkins radioed Captain Robert B. Woolverton, Seward radio officer, saying, "all okeh." He repeated the message several times, then added: "clear and cold." At this point an amateur radio station began sending on the same wavelength that Wilkins was using, making further reception impossible.

Tax Cut Bill To Come Up April 2

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ST. FRANCIS DAM LEAKY, ENGINEER

Condition Described as "Very Bad" 11 Hours Before the Disaster

LOS ANGELES, Mar. 21 (AP)—William Mulholland, who testified today at the coroner's inquest over St. Francis dam victims, and who was engineer in charge of construction of the dam, said that leak conditions 11 hours before its collapse were "bad, very bad."

Mulholland, veteran chief engineer of the Los Angeles bureau of water and power, with tears coursing down his cheeks, moaned "the only ones I envy are those who are dead. We certainly must have overlooked something."

After telling Governor Frank Noyes that he and his assistant, H. A. Van Norman, had seen the dam 11 hours before the break, Mar. 18, in which 278 lives were lost and 17 are reported missing, examination of Mulholland continued:

Q. "Did the St. Francis dam leak badly?"

A. "Of all the dams I have ever seen in every section of the country, it was the driest."

Q. "How did you happen to visit the dam on Monday, the day before the flood?"

A. "I went there because Tony Hurlbarger, the keeper who was drowned, notified that the water was muddy and there was a new leak."

Q. "What does it indicate when the water is muddy?"

A. "That is bad, very bad. When it is muddy it indicates a leak through the earth, which is always a serious matter."

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No charge will be made against the boy. His parents say they will pay the bills gladly, and will come to Salem for him today.

First American Troops Took Up Arms Decade Ago

Battle That Initiated the Yanks into World War Started on Mar. 21, 1918—U. S. Aid Turned Tide

AMIENS, France, Mar. 21 (AP)—Ten years ago today began the battle in which the first American troops fought in front line trenches in the world war.

On March 21, 1918, Field Marshal Von Hindenberg of Germany hurled at the allies on the Somme front the gray hordes he had been assembling all winter, in a mighty effort to strike a decisive blow before the United States could assemble enough forces to be of material aid to the allied cause.

Five days later, on March 25, with British reserves all but exhausted, a small force of American doughboys, who had been working on bridges behind the British lines, exchanged their shovels for bayonets and hand grenades and became the first American troops to fight shoulder to shoulder with the British and French in the front lines.

Engineers in First "They were a part of the Sixth U. S. Engineers and the Twelfth and Fourteenth Railway Engineers. With parts of the Seventeenth, Twenty-second, Twenty-eighth and One Hundred Forty-eighth U. S. aero squadrons, they made up the American representation in this major engagement of the war.

The German offensive on the Somme opened at 5 o'clock in the morning with a stealthy gas attack, quickly followed by the roar of heavy artillery. Field Marshal Haig had not learned until the last of February that the push was to be toward Amiens, a throbbing railway center back of the British lines, and there were few reinforcements at hand.

The green American boys heard the beginning of the German barrage, the booming which gradually grew into a roar. They saw the few British reserves picked up and carried forward.

On March 24 a force of reserve troops was assembled from the lines of communication, casualties of all description and stragglers. The raw American troops were drawn into this group, which was placed under the command of General Carey and constituted the British Fifth army.

Carey's force took up the key position between Hamel and Marcellave and held the line for several days against a withering attack. The only day when the allies were in the area at Villers-Bretonneux and preventing the German artillery fire from controlling Amiens and its vital railway network effectively.

The turning point came on March 28. The German onslaught lost momentum and its leaders found it increasingly difficult to bring up supplies over the shredded battlefield of the Somme. The attack continued until April 6, but in the end it was indecisive.

For the United States the battle marked the beginning of actual participation in the fighting.

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SMITH DENIES ANY PART IN OIL SCANDAL

New York Governor Emphatically Answers Nye-Robinson Utterances

WASHINGTON, Mar. 21 (AP)—The Teapot Dome scandal bulged out of the oil committee onto the floor of the senate today where it again provoked a bitter debate with Senator Robinson, of Indiana, bearing the brunt of a battle with half a dozen or more of his colleagues.

Taking the floor to reply to the strictures of Gov. Alfred E. Smith, of New York, who roundly denounced the Indianan and Chairman Nye of the oil committee, for bringing his name into the discussion, Robinson charged that "men in both parties betrayed their trust," and that men like Harry F. Sinclair don't confine their activities to one party. He said he would cite a case where Senator Walsh of Montana had approved of some activities of E. L. Doherty who loaned the Elk Hill naval reserve, at a later time.

The debate centered largely about the appointment of Sinclair to the New York racing commission and completely overshadowed today's session of the oil committee.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 21 (AP)—A St. Louis Post Dispatch staff correspondent reported an inspection of the record of the state of the late President Harding, made by his attorney, Harlan, Ohio, established that he possessed none of \$5,000,000 worth of Continental Trading company Liberty bonds involved in the oil investigation.

ALBANY, N. Y., Mar. 21 (AP)—Gov. Smith repents an infamous insinuation, and "demagogic slander" statements made on the floor of the United States senate which he thinks were uttered with the intention of making people believe he was a beneficiary of the oil scandal.

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