

CITY
EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER

OREGON: Unsettled tonight and
Wednesday, probably showers in
the north portion, mild tempera-
ture. Moderate westerly winds.

VOLUME XXVI

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

LA GRANDE, OREGON, TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 1928

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBER 289

TO BROADCAST
CONDITION OF
OREGON TRAILWidespread Publicity Will
Be Given Blue Moun-
tain StretchPLAN TO MINIMIZE
ADVERSE REPORTSOiling Over Highway Be-
tween La Grande and
Pendleton Will Be End-
ed by July 15.

Widespread publicity as to the actual conditions prevailing on the Old Oregon Trail highway, particularly across the Blue mountains, will follow a meeting at the chamber of commerce office last evening, at which were present auto-mobile dealers and agents, service station men, state highway commission officials, merchants and others interested in tourist traffic. The meeting was called to sift out the facts from wild rumors that are reported to have been spread elsewhere, as to the exact status of oiling and re-surfacing conditions on the Blue mountains, as well as the reported by disclamations against the Old Oregon Trail highway at various lateral highway junctions.

"The meeting was both instructive and constructive—we got at the true facts and they are not discouraging, and many encouraging features were brought out," commented Charles A. Malbouef, executive secretary, after the meeting. It was learned that efforts have been and are being made at other points, and by certain tourist organizations to divert traffic over the John Day highway, and it was also made clear that the improved situation on the Blue mountains has been conveyed to tourist routing organizations, and that hereafter there should be little opposition to sending traffic this way.

Oiling to End July 15
Many interested in this were brought out at the meeting. By July 15, oiling operations will be practically complete, according to highway division engineers at the meeting, while the re-surfacing will be completed before that date. It was also shown that tourist traffic, so far this season, has not been moving in the volume of past years, and that the John Day traffic is coming out about the same ratio as last year to traffic over the Old Oregon Trail. Reference was also made to existing competition of the Dalles-California highway, which is being used by some northbound tourists by way of the Klamath Falls highway, the Medford-Crater Lake highway and the McKenzie highway from Eugene, and that a portion of this traffic is moving east of Bend via the Ochoco highway, thence over the John Day—while the Idaho North and South highway, between Boise and Lewiston, is absorbing Old Oregon Trail traffic. Comparison of movement over the Old Oregon Trail highway, even under these circumstances, is therefore not only highly encouraging, but distinctly favorable, considering that the general movement of tourists has been forecast from California, beginning in July, in view of the fact that all California schools have extended their terms three weeks later this year than usual.

Less Than 2 Hours
Competent sources at the meeting stated that traffic is now crossing the Blue mountains at an average of one hour and 40 minutes.

(Continued on Page 5)

70 ENROLL IN
BOOK COURSE
FOR CHILDREN

"What do I have to do to join the Vacation Reading club?" is a frequent question asked at the desk of Miss Mabel Doty, librarian, at the boys' and girls' library these vacation days. Regardless of summer attractions boys and girls of La Grande do not lose interest in books and reading. Miss Doty declares, "Many of them take a systematic course in summer reading which would be a surprise to the adults who think the summer months 'too hot for reading,'" she relates.

The library is offering a reading club diploma to all boys and girls who read 26 books during the summer. These books are divided into five different groups: adventure on land and sea, good stories, tales of fantasy and true, boys and girls of other lands, and nature stories. Four books may be read from each group, thus providing a variety of reading. Seventy boys and girls are already enrolled in the reading club.

"I like this book better than ever," said one smiling youngster, as she deposited Louise M. Alcott's "Little Women" on the desk one day lately. "I get something out of it every time I read it," and Miss Doty relates many more interesting comments that she hears from the young readers.

Baby Clinics To
Be Conducted In
City June 29-30Dr. H. E. Storey, State
Board of Health Physi-
cian, to Be in Charge
Both Days.

Free clinics for babies will be held at Greenwood and Central schools Friday and Saturday with Dr. H. E. Storey, of Portland, from the state board of health in attendance. It was announced today by Miss Alice Marquardt, county health nurse who will work with Dr. Storey in conducting the clinics. Clinics are now being held throughout the county and will come to an end with those in La Grande to which health officers are urgently requesting all mothers to bring their babies so that they may have a thorough examination.

Sponsored by Association
The clinics are sponsored by the Union County Public Health association.

The clinics will be held at Greenwood all day on Friday and all day at Central on Saturday. "A child is entitled to at least one examination a year and it is the duty of parents to see that they have it," Miss Marquardt says. "No mother should let this splendid opportunity pass by—she owes it to her child's health and future happiness," she concludes.

ENTERPRISE TO
HAVE CONVENTIONCattle and Horse Raisers'
Association to Meet on
July 2 and 3

PORTLAND, Ore., June 25.—The annual convention of the Cattle and Horse Raisers' association at Enterprise, Ore., July 2 and 3, gives promise of being the best held for many years with an indicated attendance which will far exceed any previous ones for years back, according to O. M. Plummer, general manager of the Pacific International Livestock exposition. William Polman will be in attendance and recent tours of officials into the heart of the range country, with the enlisting of many new members, insures added interest.

"A record attendance will do much to stabilize present conditions and make for permanent prosperity in our great industry," Mr. Plummer says.

Hook Large Trout
In Diamond Lake

W. P. Sailer and R. W. Teeters and their families returned to La Grande last night from Diamond lake with what is considered to be one of the largest catches of Rainbow trout ever brought to La Grande. Some of these were on display in local store windows today and more than one fisherman gazed longingly at the finny beauties. The largest trout weighed seven and a quarter pounds and most of them ranged from three pounds up.

Their first effort to reach Diamond lake was unsuccessful because of deep snow. The second trip was made last week from the top of Clatsop Cap on snowshoes. The snow around the lake was too deep to get in with pack train, the two men report.

Insurance Men At
The Dalles Meeting

Four La Grande insurance men attended the meeting of the Oregon Insurance Agent's union at The Dalles when members of the organization gathered from all sections of the state in an interesting session. Charles H. Reynolds, of La Grande, is vice president of the state organization and was elected to the office at the Roseburg meeting in the early spring. Homer Smith, of Salem, is president of the organization and presided at the sessions yesterday which were devoted to discussion of problems of the profession. Claire Lee, state insurance commissioner, was an outstanding speaker.

Oscar Warnock, W. E. Hellfrish, of Portland, and Mr. Reynolds were appointed a committee to draft a qualification form during the business session yesterday.

Those who attended from La Grande were Mr. Warnock, Mr. Reynolds, R. V. Copsey and Jack Ferris.

Next Monday Last
Summer K. P. Meet

Twenty members of the Knights of Pythias tied Cross lodge No. 27 met in regular business session last evening at their hall with Harry Stenking, chairman, in charge. The business meeting was a short one and only regular matters were transacted. The lodge will hold its final meeting until fall next Monday.

AL SMITH ON
FIRST COUNT,
LEADER SAYSVan Namee, Manager for
New Yorker, Expects
Only One BallotMANY MENTIONED
AS RUNNING MATERobinson, of Arkansas, in
Spotlight — Tammany
Maintains a Tomblake
Silence.

HOUSTON, June 25 (AP)—That Governor Alfred E. Smith will be nominated on the first ballot was suggested today by George R. Van Namee, manager of his pre-convention activities. It was Van Namee's first effort to forecast specifically the action of the democratic convention.

"The logic of events at Houston and the general good feeling that prevails," said the Smith manager, "indicates that Governor Smith's popularity is so great that it is doubtful even if his managers wished they could delay his nomination beyond the first ballot."

Van Namee was confident he said, that there will be no serious contest at the convention over the platform or any other subject.

"Such harmony as exists here has never been known in a democratic convention before," he said.

"Every delegate here knows that the party has a great chance to win and no chance will be taken of placing that opportunity in jeopardy."

"Any democrat who wants his party to be successful knows that we must leave here with good feeling prevailing."

Asked as to his idea of the time for the start of balloting, Van Namee suggested Thursday.

ROBINSON MENTIONED
HOUSTON, June 25 (AP)—With a score or more candidates scrambling for a position before it, the vice presidential spotlight shined today upon three or four persons, perhaps lingering longest upon Senator Robinson, of Arkansas.

(Continued on Page 5)

Better Roofing
Is Discussed At
Local Meeting

Builders, building materials dealers and others interested in building construction met in the Sacramento Inn last evening at a session given by the John Manville corporation and sponsored by the Claude C. Pratt Lumber company, local dealer, and the Walla Walla Lumber Co., distributor for this territory.

The subject of the meeting was "Better Roofing Materials." W. M. Black Jr., of San Francisco, talked on materials and application and also gave a physical demonstration of the application of rigid asbestos shingles over old wooden shingles. H. W. Farrington, sales supervisor with headquarters in Seattle, spoke of "Selling of Quality Merchandise." Mr. Pratt opened the meeting.

Those in attendance, besides the men mentioned above, were: Ray W. Brown, retail yard, Mt. Emily Lumber company; H. P. Nelson, La Grande contractor; R. E. Bollesman and A. W. Hancock, both of the Walla Walla (Wash.) Lumber company; D. E. Snyder, East Oregon Lumber company of Enterprise; W. H. Herman, Stoddard Lumber Co., Baker; H. E. Matthews, of La Grande; W. C. Kelly, contractor; H. Gibson, G. E. Miller, W. P. Blanchard, Fire Chief C. O. Murchison, E. F. Hemminger, C. E. Hildebrand, George E. Lyman, all of La Grande, and G. C. Hubbard, territory salesman of the John Manville corporation.

Sherrills Manage
Foley Hotel Grill

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Sherrill, of Portland, have assumed management of the Foley hotel grill. It is being operated independently of the hotel, though no changes in the grill have been made.

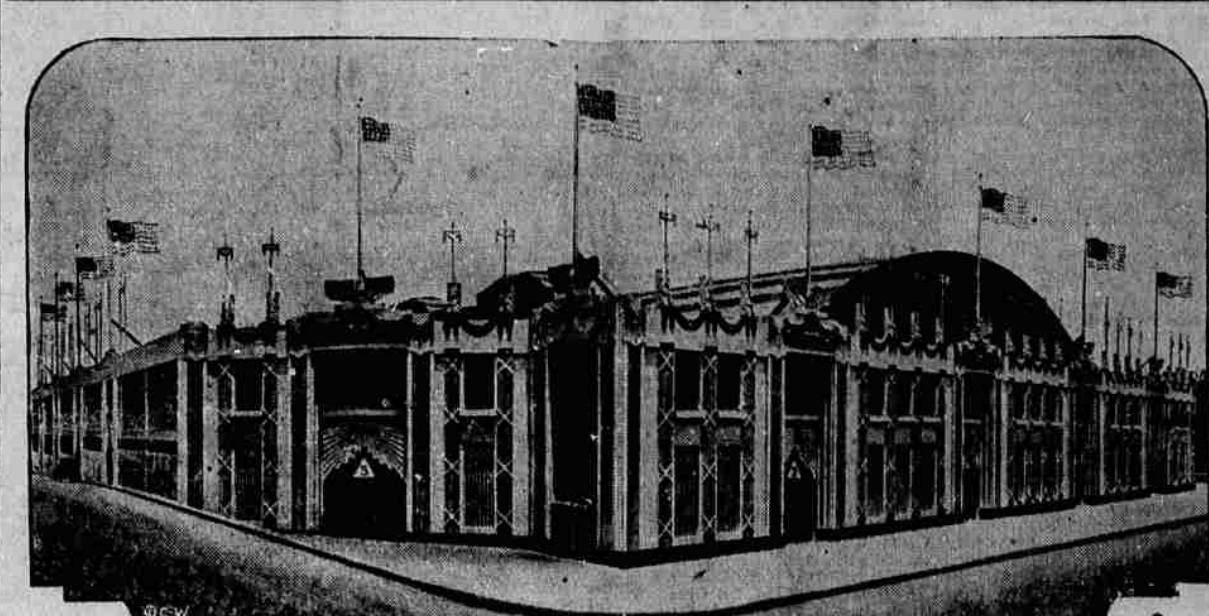
"For the present we will continue to operate the grill as it has been conducted in the past by Mrs. Phyllis," they state. "We like the city and believe that there is a very fine opportunity here."

Mr. and Mrs. Sherrill are both experienced in this work.

Schilke Home Is
Damaged by Blaze

The first truck was called to the Fred Schilke home at 1622 N. avenue at 12:20 o'clock this afternoon when the roof had caught on fire, where the roof had caught on fire. The blaze was soon extinguished. Damage is small. It is believed that the fire started from a defective fuse.

Democrats Convene in Houston Convention Hall



Here is the first picture of the completed auditorium in Houston, Texas, where the democrats opened their national convention today for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the presidency. The ornately decorated convention hall is amply ventilated on all sides to let the breezes in and the hot air out. It was erected especially for the democratic convention.

MILTON A. MILLER
FREES DELEGATESOregonians May Now
Vote for Choice for
Vice President

PORTLAND, Ore., June 25 (AP)—Milton A. Miller, who received the Oregon democratic preferential vote for the vice presidential nomination wired to the Oregon delegation at Houston today, releasing them from obligation to present his name to the convention. He told the delegates to support the candidate who would "sweep the country."

By M. E. Barker
(Associated Press Writer)
SAM HOUSTON, HALL, HOUSTON, Tex., June 25 (AP)—Oregon delegates to the democratic national convention, pending receipt of word from Milton A. Miller, Portland, in reply to their telegram last night asking him to release them from their primary preference obligation of supporting him for the vice presidential nomination, today were considering to whom their votes might be given.

Discussion of vice presidential possibilities among the Oregon delegates today included Senator John B. Kendrick, Wyoming; Representative Cordell Hull, Tennessee; and John E. Berry, supported by former service men and labor leaders. Berry was expected to receive support of ex-service men on the delegation floor, particularly if he showed any promise of strength when balloting was reached.

Peterson Selected
The selection of William C. Peterson of Pendleton, Ore., outspoken in his opposition to the prohibition law, as Oregon's member of the resolutions committee, was seen as an indication that the influence of Oregon democracy might be cast on the side of repeal of the prohibition amendment or for a referendum plan.

While reiterating his opposition to the prohibition law and expressing his personal belief that the entire liquor situation should be entrusted to hands of the individual states, Peterson declared he would support a general "law enforcement" declaration in the platform with no specific reference to prohibition.

Peterson said, however, that if a plank in advance providing for the placing of the liquor question up to the states, he would be disposed to favor that.

Hazel Glab Freed
By L. A. Officers

LOS ANGELES, June 25 (AP)—Mrs. Hazel Glab, 29, and her niece, Miss Ethel G. Koser, 17, of Oklahoma City, Okla., held since last Wednesday on charges of murder, following the shooting to death of John I. Glab, wealthy retired Chicago druggist, today were released on motion of the district attorney's office because of lack of evidence.

Thea Rasche Ready
To Cross Atlantic

THREE RIVERS, Que., June 25 (AP)—Thea Rasche, 26, and the companion North Star, purchased for her by Mrs. James A. Stillman, was at Cape de la Madeleine flying field near here today awaiting favorable weather for a flight to Europe.

The plane was flown here from Hadley field N. P., yesterday by Ulrich Kuhlman, the mechanic, who is to be the co-pilot on the trip. Miss Rasche came on the field and was at the field when the plane arrived.

Robbers Get \$6,000

SAN ANTONIO, June 25 (AP)—Three payroll bandits held up the paymaster of the San Antonio light Co., in the business section and escaped with \$6,000 today.

Infant Mortality Lowest in This
State—Idaho Has Fewest Deaths

WASHINGTON, June 25 (AP)—Oregon has the best record among the states of the union in infant mortality rates for 1927, according to reports just made public. Infant mortality rates for 1927 were lower than for 1926 in 30 of the 33 states shown for both years. For the states the highest infant mortality rate (125.8 per 1,000 population) appears for Arizona, and the lowest (47.5) for Oregon.

Infant mortality rates are shown for both years for 48 cities of 100,000 population or more in 1929. For 42 of these cities the 1927 infant mortality rates were lower than those of the previous year, the lowest 1927 rate (41.4) being for Seattle, Wash., and the highest (57.1) for Norfolk, Va.

Birth Rates Lower
Birth rates for 1927 were lower than for 1926 in 23 of the 33 states for which figures for the two years are shown. The highest 1927 birth rate (25.8) is shown for North Carolina, and the lowest (13.6) for Montana.

Figures show that Oregon's birth rate decreased in 1927, although the drop was small. Birth rate figures for the Pacific coast states follow:

State 1927 1926
Oregon 15.4 16.8
Washington 14.5 15.6
California 18.5 19.2
Idaho 17.2 17.3
Montana 13.6 14.2

Going still further into the department of commerce statistics, total births in Oregon for 1927 amounted to 14,639, while deaths for the same year were 10,184, an increase of about 4,500.

Houston Hot;
Water Cools
"First Lady"

HOUSTON, Tex., June 25 (AP)—With the arrival of Mrs. Alfred E. Smith, the New York delegations and the Smith headquarters at the democratic convention have what they consider the "first lady of the convention."

But Mrs. Smith will disclaim all present claims to this and will keep herself in such retirement as the wife of the leading presidential candidate for the democrats.

Mrs. Smith graciously insisted that she had nothing to say that would be of interest to the public, when she arrived last yesterday.

"Just wait a minute," she requested the well wishers from her home state who were waiting to greet her at the hotel. "I want to wash my face. It is so hot here."

She took off the white silk starched hat in which she traveled and revealed her dark brown hair in perfect order, neatly arrayed close to her head, under a hair net.

"Oh my yes, I am glad," she said. "But I am here only because I wanted to come and see the convention. Really there is no politics in my mind."

She announced that she would accept only one of the many official invitations that had been tendered her, and confessed that she couldn't remember which one it was.

Al Espinosa Leads
Mid-American Field

KANSAS CITY, June 25 (AP)—Al Espinosa of Chicago took a five streak lead in the mid-American golf tournament at the Lakewood course today by shooting the morning 18 holes in 75, three over par, which brought his 54-hole total to 217.

Archie Compston, British stag and Leo Diegel, White Plains, N. Y., were tied for second with 222. Compston, paired with Espinosa, shot a 73 today, while Diegel took 74, his third of the tournament. Neil Christian, Portland, had a total of 226 for the 54 holes.

ROBBERS GET \$6,000
SAN ANTONIO, June 25 (AP)—Three payroll bandits held up the paymaster of the San Antonio light Co., in the business section and escaped with \$6,000 today.

CECCIONI RESCUE
IS NOT CONFIRMEDThrilling Story of Saving
of Noble Told to the
Associated Press

ROME, June 25 (AP)—Yesterday's report that Natalie Ceccioni, motor chief of the dirigible Italia, had been rescued from the Noble camp off Northeast land now appears to be unfounded.

No confirmation of the report could be obtained from Spitzbergen, and it appeared that an error in transmission of a message was responsible for the erroneous information.

Copyrighted 1928 by A. P.
VIRGO BAY, Spitzbergen, June 25 (AP)—(By way of Kings Bay)—Harried by heavy fog the rescue party at Virgo Bay today were waiting for further opportunity to take off the remaining members of the Noble party stranded off Northeast land and Lieutenant E. Lundberg, Swedish flier, now marooned with them.

The huge Italian 8-55 under command of Major Maddalena and the Marina II meanwhile will start toward the east soon as possible in search of the missing men of the balloon party.

Hope of saving the three men headed by Dr. Elin Malin, Swedish meteorologist, which started for land on foot almost a month ago is considered very small.

Noble in Bed
General Umberto Noble, who is worn out by the privations of the past month and suffering from a broken leg, is resting in bed aboard the base ship Citta di Milano here under careful attention for his injuries and is being kept as free as possible from the worries of the rescue groups over their difficulties.

Efforts to obtain an interview with the general today were in vain. Captain Romagnolo of the Citta di Milano permitting no one to see him.

While the rescue planes, of which there are a half dozen here, are being held down by fog, fear for the safety of the stranded balloon party is not acute inasmuch as the group now has plenty of food, having killed several polar bears with the weapons dropped last week by Major Maddalena and the Swedish leader, Captain Tornberg.

The fliers had hoped to make another trip to the marooned group last night, but found it impossible because of the fog.

Ice conditions are growing easier.

(Continued on Page 5)

MAN ESCAPES
EN ROUTE TO
STATE PRISON

SALEM, Ore., June 25 (AP)—Raymond S. Weber, sentenced in Yamhill county to serve five years in the penitentiary for grand larceny, escaped from Sheriff W. G. Manning under a fusillade of revolver shots while Manning was bringing him to the state prison.

Without giving the officer any trouble Weber had ridden in the car with him all the way to Salem, but as they were driving along North Capitol street near Center Weber quietly unlatched the door of the automobile and leaped into the street. As soon as he could stop the car Manning opened fire and started in pursuit of the fugitive. He later was aided by Salem police officers, but Weber was still at large today.

Residents in the northeast part of Salem were considerably alarmed by the revolver shots and for a time did not know that the man with the smoking gun, pursuing another, was an officer.

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE
(First game) R. H. E.
Brooklyn 5 10 0
Boston 1 1 1
Batteries: Clark and Hime; Deane, Hollingsworth and Taylor.
(First game) R. H. E.
Pittsburgh 11 1 0
Chicago 9 1 0
Batteries: Grimes and Hare; Arnesen, Blake, Malone and Hartnett.

DEMOCRATIC
CONVENTION
OPENS TODAYKeynote Address Is Held
over Until 7:30 O'clock
This EveningMAJOR DECISIONS
ALL BUT RATIFIEDCommittee Starting the
Struggle to Perfect a
Platform — Balloting
Due About Thursday.

By Byron Price
(Associated Press Writer)
SAM HOUSTON, HALL, HOUSTON, June 25 (AP)—A democratic national convention whose major decisions were all but made before it ever convened, began here today in an opening session so brief that it was over before the delegates got settled in their seats.

Leaving the keynote speech, the usual magnet of opening day interest, for an evening session, the convention merely went through the motions of getting itself legally afoot and then after a session of one minute less than half an hour recessed until 7:30 p. m.

Smith Demonstration
The only convention thrill was not a part of the session itself. It was a short demonstration for Al Smith, put on impromptu by democrats from Herbert Hoover's home state of California. The wild Smith California delegation raised a big picture of their man high above their place in the convention floor and a cheer went up to the rafters from the legion of line-up Smith men on the sweltering convention floor and their summer clad women in linen suits.

Shouts of "No" came from all over the great hall as the chairman announced with the parliamentary rapidity of a machine gun that the organization-sponsored motion for a recess had carried. Now that they were at it after many days of travel southward and hotel room waiting, one delegate seemed to like it and wanted to go on with it, heat or no heat.

To Prepare Platform
A newly appointed platform committee will wrestle forward during the next 24 hours in the hour of getting a finished product, including a prohibition plank that may avoid a floor fight, ready by tomorrow or tomorrow night. Although the convention officials first got to go through the motions of formally giving convention approval to the new committee, its members already have been designated by the various state delegations and they are ready to go to work informally.

The keynote will be virtually the only business at the evening session. Voting for a presidential candidate probably will not begin before Thursday or Friday.

SMITH TRIES ON DERBY
ALBANY, N. Y., June 25 (AP)—As the democratic convention which will consider his name as the party's candidate for the presidency, opened in Texas today, Governor Alfred E. Smith tried on the latest edition of his never-ending succession of brown derbies, the war bonnets that featured every Smith campaign for the past quarter century.

The governor greeted reporters with a smile in the executive office shortly before noon but while he chatted with them freely, he continued his policy of saying nothing about the convention or his own prospects.

"For the benefit of the new comers," he said, "I think I'd better show the latest thing in brown derbies."

Walking across the room to a hat rack he took down a deep chocolate derby that had arrived as a gift by the morning mail and set it jauntily on his head.

"How many of those do you get a day?" he was asked.

"Four so far today," he said, "but only one in a dozen is wearable. This one though is good. This is official."

The governor said he would listen to the keynote speech tonight on the radio in executive mansion. "I was going to use this speech one I had set up in this office," he said, "but all I've been able to pick up on it is the noise of the capital elevators going up and down and that's not so interesting."

He indicated that state duties would occupy him during the day.

(Continued on Page 4)