

CITY
EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER
Oregon: Fair, with light clouds
partly tonight and Friday becom-
ing overcast with rain or snow
Friday. Slightly warmer.

VOLUME XXVII.

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

LA GRANDE, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1928.

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NUMBER 75.

FATAL AUTO ACCIDENT DURING NIGHT

AGED MAN IS
KILLED WHEN
CAR CRASHESFielding W. Hall, 68, of
Minam, Victim of Acci-
dent at Island CityTWO OTHERS HAVE
MINOR INJURIESRay Billups and Les Dun-
ham, of Walla Walla,
Held in Jail Here on an
Open ChargeFielding W. Hall, 68 years of age,
was killed early this morning when
a car driven by Ray Billups, of
Walla Walla, left the road near
Island City and overturned. Mr.
Hall, who occupied the back seat,
was thrown from the car, the crash
fracturing his skull and causing in-
ternal injuries. He was dead when
found about half an hour after the
accident.Mr. Billups and a companion,
Les Dunham, escaped with only
minor bruises and scratches. They
are being held in the city jail to-
day on an open charge.

Resident of Minam

Mr. Hall, also known as "Lum"
Hall, was a resident of Minam and
was connected with the store there,
according to information received
here today. He was the father of
Lester Hall, of Minam. His body
is at the Bonanza chapel pending
funeral arrangements which
will be made upon arrival of rela-
tives.According to reports received by
Dick Robertson, state traffic offi-
cer, who investigated the accident,
the car was coming toward La
Grande about 12:40 a. m. and
failed to make the curve in the
La Grande-Walla Walla highway
near Island City. The machine
shattered a mail box and then
somersaulted, landing on its top
pointing in the direction from
which it came. It is almost a total
wreck.The two men in the front seat
were thrown into the river and
made their way to safety. George
McDonald, who was near the scene,
saw the lights of the car disappear
and went to investigate, finding
Mr. Billups and Mr. Dunham. The
three made a brief search for Mr.
Hall but, not finding him, they
came to La Grande.

Case in Water

Mr. McDonald then returned to
the scene of the accident, accom-
panied by Ben Hummel, of the po-
lice force. They found Mr. Hall
dead on the edge of the river, with
his face dipping into the chilly
water. Traffic Officer Robertson
gave as his opinion today that Mr.
Hall crawled 25 to 35 feet to the
water after the accident, presuma-
bly for a drink, and that he died
trying to quench his thirst. He
began this, he said, on a broody trail
he traced from the wreck to the
river bank.After they returned to town, the
two men from Walla Walla were
placed under arrest. County Cor-
oner E. L. Hudson's body left for
Enterprise this morning, has not
announced whether there will be
an inquest. Officers expect a deci-
sion by him tomorrow upon his
return.Officers gave Mr. Billups' ad-
dress in Walla Walla as 115 East
Birch street.C. F. GORDON
SUCCUMBS TO
LONG ILLNESSCharles Francis Gordon, who has
been a resident of La Grande for
the last six months, died at his
home at 1414 Washington avenue
last night following a long illness.
Funeral services will be announced
later. The body is at the Stoddard
& Zimmerman mortuary.Mr. Gordon was a well known
resident of the Pumpkin Ridge dis-
trict for many years, moving to La
Grande only recently, where he
occupied the Ruby Brick apart-
ment house. News of his death
saddened his many friends over the
valley.The deceased is survived by his
widow, Mrs. Ida Gordon, a baby
daughter, one brother, six sisters
and other relatives. He was born
Sept. 18, 1858 and was 72 years,
three months and one day of age
at the time of death.Commissioners
Reject Plan To
Refund BondsAction Taken Last Night
After Receipt of Two
Letters from Portland
Bond DealersThe city commission, following
receipt of two letters last night,
has decided not to accept a proposal
of Magnus & Co., of Cincinnati, O.,
for refunding some \$200,000 of
improvement bonds issued by the
city of La Grande. City Recorder
J. E. Stearns was authorized to
notify the George H. Burr, Conrad
& Brown company of Portland, and
a Portland group of bond dealers
that the proposal will be rejected.
The two letters advised against
the proposed refunding for several
reasons, one stating that if refund-
ed, the improvement bonds would
become general obligation bonds
thus technically transferring the
responsibility to all property own-
ers instead of to those benefited.The refunding proposal was pre-
sented some time ago and, while
no action was taken, the matter
was taken under consideration. The
City Manager W. C. Crews pre-
sented a corrected estimate of the
cost of installing water for Mr.
Kibby and his neighbors in that
part of the city near the brick-
yards. He estimated the cost would
be \$1,320. Commissioner Charles
Plyte also made a report on this
matter. The request was then laid
on the table.Mr. Stearns was authorized to
ask bonding attorneys in Portland
to submit bids for handling pro-
ceedings in connection with a com-
ing sale of bonds on eight improve-
ment districts completed this year.Valley On Edge
Of Frigid Wave;
Low Is 10 AboveWEATHER TODAY
7:30 a. m.—15 above.
Minimum—11 above.
Condition—Clear.WEATHER YESTERDAY
Maximum 24, minimum 19
above.
Condition: Partly cloudy.WEATHER DEC. 20, 1927
Maximum 22, minimum 16
above.
Condition: Partly cloudy.On the outskirts of a frigid
wave that enveloped Idaho, Utah
and other Rocky Mountain terri-
tory states, La Grande experienced a
cold wave yesterday and today
with the weather man predicting
warmer weather for tonight and
tomorrow.This, the second cold spell of the
winter, was not so intense as the
one earlier this month although the
thermometer dropped to 10 above
yesterday morning and the
minimum early this morning was
11 above. At 7:30 o'clock today
the mercury had moved up to 19
and was still climbing. Sunshine
during the last few days has taken
much of the chill from the air
although a wind this morning made
it disagreeable.Idaho and Utah both reported
sub-zero weather yesterday.Schools To Have
Santa ProgramsIn celebration of the coming
Christmas holidays the schools in
La Grande will hold Christmas pro-
grams and parties tomorrow after-
noon. The four grade schools and
the high school will then adjourn
classes until Wednesday, Jan. 2,
the day after New Year.In the grade schools each room
is planning a program for tomor-
row. Following the time honored
custom gifts will be exchanged,
programs will be held and Christ-
mas trees enjoyed.The Associated Girl students con-
tinued with a Christmas party
yesterday afternoon in the L. E. B.
Recreational hall.Many of the teachers will leave
tomorrow afternoon and evening
to spend the holidays at their
homes and with friends in other
cities. Some will remain in La
Grande over Christmas.Dokies Elect New
Heads Last NightAt the meeting of the D. O. K. E.
held in La Grande last night offi-
cers for the year and delegates to
the Dokie convention to be held in
Canada next year were elected. The
delegates named were Claude Berry,
delegate, and Walter Jones, al-
ternate. The convention will be
held in Winnipeg in August.LESS CRIME
HERE DURING
YEAR, REPORT134 Fewer Criminal Cases
in Justice Court Than
in 1928LIQUOR, TRAFFIC
CASES TOP LISTCircuit Court Records,
However, Reveal an In-
crease in "Business" for
This YearThere were 124 fewer criminal
cases in the La Grande justice
court so far this year than there
were last year, a comparison of
figures reveals.The reason for the decrease in
prohibition, traffic and other cases
is difficult to explain although sev-
eral possible explanations have
been offered. Perhaps people in
La Grande are "getting better and
better day by day," is one opinion
that has been advanced.The fact that there has been no
special prohibition officer in La
Grande since early this year may
be a factor.

(Continued on Page 5)

REVISE WALLAWA
COURT CALENDARMotion for Change of
Venue for Black and
Newberg Not AllowedThe court calendar for the next
term of Wallawa county circuit
court has been arranged and will
begin at 9 a. m. Monday, Jan. 7, at
Enterprise. At that time the case
of the state vs. Harry Newberg,
will be tried.An argument was held yesterday
before Circuit Judge J. W. Knowles
in La Grande, in which a change
of venue was asked for Newberg
and Fred M. Black, to be tried on a
second degree murder charge. The
motion was denied.Black and Newberg are charged
with fatally shooting Leonard Gil-
son, of Lodi, this fall. They al-
lege they mistook him for a deer
when he was riding a white horse
on his farm near Lodi.The calendar follows:
State of Oregon vs. Harry New-
berg, second degree murder, Mon-
day, Jan. 7, 9 a. m.; attorneys, S.
H. Burleigh and J. A. Burleigh for
state, and Green and Hess for de-
fendant.State of Oregon vs. Fred M. Black,
second degree murder, Wednes-
day, Jan. 9, 9 a. m.; S. H. Burleigh
and J. A. Burleigh for state, and
Robert V. Christman, attor-
ney for defendant.Asher Trial Jan. 11
State of Oregon vs. Fred B. Asher,
second degree murder, Friday,
Jan. 11, 9 a. m.; attorneys for state,
S. H. Burleigh and Green and Hess
and J. A. Burleigh attorney for de-
fendant.State of Oregon vs. Frank Hoff-
man, involuntary manslaughter,
Monday, Jan. 14, at 9 a. m.; S. H.
Burleigh attorney for state, and
Green and Hess for defendant.State of Oregon vs. J. H. Jackson,
larceny by bailer, Tuesday, Jan. 15,
9 a. m.; S. H. Burleigh for state
and D. W. Sheehan, attorney for de-
fendant.State of Oregon vs. H. M. Pfeiffer,
perjury, Wednesday, Jan. 16,
9 a. m.; S. H. Burleigh and J. A.
Burleigh for state and Green and
Hess and F. H. Ivanhoe, for de-
fendant.In the grade schools each room
is planning a program for tomor-
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West Reported
From CommitteeAny Further Fight Will
Be on Floor of Senate;
Aitchison, of Oregon, Is
QuizzedWASHINGTON, Dec. 20—(AP)—
Any further fight on the nomi-
nation of Roy O. West, of Chicago,
to be secretary of the interior, will
be on the floor of the senate. His
confirmation has been favorably
reported by the senate public lands
committee by a vote of 7 to 2 but
only after Chairman Nye had read
a statement in Mr. West's pres-
ence in which he said the appoint-
ment was "unfortunate."West's nomination was sent to
the senate along with that of Wil-
liam F. Whiting, secretary of com-
merce.AITCHISON QUIZZED
WASHINGTON, Dec. 20—(AP)—
Clyde B. Aitchison, of Oregon,
who has been renominated as a
member of the interstate commerce
commission, appeared as a witness
today before the senate interstate
commerce committee and was
promptly told by Senator Wheel-
er, democrat, Montana, that com-
plaints had been made to him that
the commissioner had neglected
valuation cases assigned to him.The commissioner, who was
called at the request of Wheeler,
had done about telephone company
valuation which was authorized by
congress in 1915 and when Aitchi-
son replied that the commission
had been too busy with other im-
portant cases, Wheeler said:"I will be frank with you. Com-
plaints have been made that valua-
tion cases assigned to you have
been neglected for an unreasonable
time.""All that I can say is that I have
not been conscious of that," the
commissioner replied. "I believe
that the opinion of the commission
is that my work has been kept up."Aitchison told the committee that
he had been assigned to revise the
commission's statutes but that he
had not been relieved of his other
work. The revision, he said, was a
long and arduous task on which
he had spent half his time during
the past year including many nights
and Sundays.Upon request from Senator
Wheeler the commissioner agreed
to submit data giving a list of the
cases assigned to him, personally
when hearings were assigned, when
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FUTURE QUEEN OF ENGLAND?



Lady Anne Maud Wellesley, 18-year-old beauty, daughter of the Marquis of Wellesley, is being mentioned in gossip as the future Princess of Wales and ultimately Queen of England. Efforts to obtain confirmation or denial of the rumors have failed. Lady Anne made her debut at the first royal court this year. It was noticed that at social events this season the prince has danced with her frequently and found much pleasure in her company.

Mr. Televox Is
Not Immune
To 'Kidding'BURLINGAME, Cal., Dec. 20
(AP)—"Mr. Televox," an electro-
mechanical traffic cop here, may
be scientifically perfect but he has
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He has a scientific ear-which
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to translate the sound into action.
Throwing out his arms and
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Doo-doo" at him, whereupon he
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do something about it.King's Progress
On Firmer BasisLONDON, Dec. 20—(AP)—An
official bulletin issued late this
afternoon stated that King George's
progress was established on a firmer
basis.The condition of the right side
of the chest was stated to have im-
proved and the heart is slowly
gathering power. The exhaustion
continues profound but the general
strength is slightly improved.Smallpox Case
Excites CollegeMOSCOW, Dec. 20 (AP)—
Oliver Huff had taken his mid-
case of smallpox home today. It
was understood here, leaving 2000
students and instructors of the Uni-
versity of Idaho pondering the effect
that they must vacinate of quar-
antine.Huff had the only case of small-
pox on the campus, but when it
was discovered, the vaccine points
began to fly. President Kelly or-
dered the whole campus vacinated,
under penalty of quarantine in-
stead of Christmas vacations, or
disbarment from college.The condition of the right side
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