

**SNOW WORST SINCE 1916 OVER VALLEY**

Five and a Half Inches Fall During Night, More Today

**STATE HIGHWAYS OPEN TO TRAVEL**

Road to Cove Reported Blocked; City Is Using Grader on Streets; Crop Conditions Good

With some county roads blocked by drifts and with an additional five and a half inches of snow falling during last night, La Grande and Union county was still digging out today.

It is reported that the road between La Grande and Cove is practically impassable because of drifted snow, and also that farmers in some other parts of the valley are cut off from main highways by drifts.

**State Roads Open**

The state highways in this district from La Grande into Wallowa county and the Old Oregon Trail, are open to travel. It is reported. The road to Hot Lake was blocked for a short time this afternoon. The highway commission has had little difficulty keeping the main roads open this year in spite of the heavy snow.

Reports are that the following Eastern Oregon roads are blocked: Canyon City to Burns, Vale to Burns, Pilot Rock to Heppner and Ukiah to Pilot Rock.

In La Grande, the snowfall of last night—which was still continuing this morning—is said to bring the depth to a point exceeding that of any year since the winter of 1915-16, when exceptionally heavy snows were experienced here.

About two feet fell during the last few days and, although settling in some places to a less depth, in other points drifts have made the depth greater. In West La Grande, on the hill, there are some drifts nearly five feet deep over sidewalks and citizens have been hard pressed to keep the walks clear enough for travel. Some other parts of the city also report drifts of considerable size.

**Finding Birds**

Two persons telephoned to the Observer this morning that a robin had been seen near their places. Farmers and sportsmen of the county are uniting in providing feed for game birds whose natural sources have been cut off because of the deep snow.

The Izaak Walton league is taking an active part in this. Many people in the city are putting out crumbs for snow birds and sparrows.

The city street department has been working overtime for the last several days in an effort to keep main streets and sidewalks cleared of snow, but it has been impossible to reach all parts of the city. City Manager W. C. Crews reports.

**City Using Grader**

The grader and tractor are being used on the streets and sidewalks are being dragged. Small amounts of snow have been formed along the gutters, sometimes to a depth of several inches.

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**YOUNG AUTHOR IS RECEIVING RECOGNITION**

Alfred Louis Meyers, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Meyers, of La Grande, and a member of the faculty at the University of Notre Dame at Notre Dame, Ind., has achieved recognition for his writing. A short story written by Mr. Meyers appears in the January issue of the "Catholic World." The title of the story is "The Courtship of Laura Calder."

Mr. Meyers was graduated from the La Grande High school several years ago. In the magazine the young author is described as "An Oregonian whose home town is La Grande, is hereby introduced to the reading public with the printer's of his first short story."

**Men's Club Will Meet This Evening**

The Presbyterian Men's club will meet tonight at 8 o'clock at the home of John Macpherson. The program will include talks by several La Grande Boy Scouts and by Dr. W. T. Phy, of Hot Lake.

The seniors and their subjects are: Marion Reynolds, tenderfoot; Max Stoddard, second class; Howard Lyman, first class; Roland Hossler, star; Claire Thomas, life; Robert Ramsey, eagle scout; Claire Perkins, eagle merit badge.

**More Flu Reported In Portland Today**

PORTLAND, Jan. 24 (AP)—Seven new cases of influenza and one death from the disease, were reported to the city health office today. The death was that of Samuel B. Donagh, 70 years old.

**War Vets, Ladies Auxiliary Seat 1929 Officials**

E. L. Clark, of Bend, in Attendance; Me eting Opens With 6:30 O'clock Supper

Members of the Spanish-American War veterans and the Ladies' auxiliary, of La Grande, installed officers for the new year at an enjoyable meeting last night at the K. of P. hall, which started with a delicious supper at 6:30 o'clock.

E. L. Clark, departmental senior vice commander, of Bend, Ore., was installing officer. Other visitors from out of town included Dr. Houston, of Baker.

**New Officers**

The veterans installed the following officers: Commander, A. P. Marr; senior vice, M. W. Goodwin; junior vice, J. G. Henry; adjutant, E. L. Clark; quartermaster, H. E. Coolidge; trustee, Henry Ehrenbott; chaplain, C. W. Chandler; officer of the day, Mr. Stager; officer of the guard, Sabin Alexander; color sergeant, Ole Matheson.

The auxiliary installed the following officers: President, Mrs. Nora Chandler; senior vice, Mrs. Anne Platt; junior vice, Mrs. Edna Hale; secretary, Mrs. Ethel Hanford; chaplain, Mrs. Louise Connor; treasurer, Mrs. Emma Stager; patriotic instructor, Mrs. Mary Marr; historian, Mrs. Marjette Yeck; conductor, Mrs. Jessie Nelson; assistant, Mrs. Fannie Henry; guard, Mrs. Lucille Bantz; assistant, Mrs. Mae Gump; color bearer, Mrs. Rosie Matheson.

**Interesting Talks**

During the meeting some excellent talks on President McKinley, one by the Rev. R. L. Putnam, were heard and Mr. and Mrs. Nelson presented the organizations with a handsome picture of Mr. McKinley.

Members of the auxiliary and camp in attendance numbered 58.

**Class Contest Added to Hoop Bill on Friday**

As a preliminary to the Baker-La Grande basketball game tomorrow night at 7:30 o'clock in the L. D. S. Recreational hall, the seniors and freshmen quintets will play a class contest. The first game is scheduled to start at 6:20 o'clock so as to be ended in time for the main event.

School officials announced today that one-half of the balcony will be reserved for students but that the other half of the balcony and all of the downstairs will be open to townpeople.

The Baker-La Grande game will be the first of the "big three" meetings of the year for the Tigers. Baker defeated Pendleton last Friday and lost to Mac-Hi on Saturday. In addition, Baker lost to Union but later defeated the Union quintet. From comparative scores, it is expected the Baker and La Grande teams will be evenly matched when they take the floor.

Last year Baker won at Baker 22 to 17 and La Grande won at La Grande 17 to 15.

Couch R. W. Christie hasn't announced his lineup as yet but he did announce that there would be no high school games on Saturday night.

**Remembers Snow Of January, 1916**

The present snow is resulting in considerable reminiscing of former heavy snows in La Grande, particularly that of January, 1916, which many local people recall vividly.

The consensus is that the present snow is the worst since 1916 but is not nearly so deep as the one 13 years ago, it is said. One business man said that the snow in the gutters in 1916 was piled so high that one could not see over it and that travel was extremely difficult, in the main part of the city.

**Mothers of University Students Ask State For Adequate Infirmary**

Salem, Ore., Jan. 24 (AP)—How students at the University of Oregon have been compelled by lack of hospital accommodation to walk about the campus with feverish temperatures, and if they are admitted to the infirmary, how their lives are menaced by fire, were some of the conditions pictured before the ways and means committee last night by mothers of University students. Their spokesman was Mrs. W. B. Crane.

The mothers represented the movement that has pledged \$50,000 for the erection of a University infirmary on condition that the legislature appropriate a like amount.

Mrs. Crane said the infirmary, a small frame structure that is known as "the shack" has room for only 13 patients, although the campus population is 3200. Relative to an agreement made by Governor Patterson and President Arnold Bennett Hall of the university that no building appropriation would be asked this session Mrs. Crane remarked that "no two individuals have a right to make agreements involving the life of a child." Mother-like, the visiting

**CITY BONDS ARE SOLD AT GOOD PRICE**

Carl E. Nelson, of Salem, Bids 1,0348 for \$19,827.76 Local Issue

**OTHER BIDS ALL MORE THAN PAR**

Bond Sale by Commission Last Night Represents Final Step in Sidewalk Districts

A block of La Grande street improvement bonds, issued under the so-called Bancroft bonding act, were sold to Carl E. Nelson, of Salem, Ore., by the city commission last night at 1.0348, which is considered by city officials to be an excellent price under present conditions. It is nearly three and a half cents above par for each dollar.

The bonds, issued for payment of work in eight districts, mostly sidewalk projects, total \$19,827.76. Four sealed bids were opened by the commissioners last night. Besides Mr. Nelson's bid, the following offers were made:

Marshall Wright & Co., Portland, 1.06314.

George H. Burr, Conrad & Brown Co., Portland, bid 1.0651.

La Grande National Bank, La Grande, bid 1.0179.

**To Be Retired in 10 Years**

The bonds will be retired in 10 years time, by annual payments. They carry 5% per cent interest. This was the first bonds that have been put on the market by the city for several months.

The commission granted an application from Dorothy Gilbreath to conduct a rooming house in the Savoy building, and the financial report of the city for the year was read, discussed and ordered filed.

A motion was passed authorizing Commissioner Charles Pyle and City Manager W. C. Crews to make a visit to Western Oregon next week for a conference on highway matters with the state commission.

**MAY SEEK AWARD FOR HEROIC ACT**

Rumors Say Movement May Be Started on Behalf of Trapper

Following the heroic walk through 15 miles of deep snow to the Blue mountains back of Cove—in an effort to summon aid to Harold E. Buckner, atrail pilot who was fatally injured last Thursday—there has been some talk heard in La Grande concerning an attempt to secure some recognition for Bill Brockam, the trapper who gave the first news of Mr. Buckner's fate to the world.

There has been no definite action reported, but it is said that Mr. Brockam's heroic act may be brought to the attention of the Carnegie headquarters in Pittsburgh. Jack Hamby stayed with Mr. Buckner at the cabin while Mr. Brockam was on the way to summon help, members of the rescue party report.

Mr. Buckner's father, H. H. Buckner, is pastor of the Methodist church at Nevada City, Cal., according to a communication received in La Grande.

His father carries a motion picture camera with him for his work in many reels. He enjoys looking at the movies of himself but becomes disappointed when he can't reach out and grab himself, his mother said.

"He doesn't photograph on the screen very well," his father said, "because to reproduce well the actor must be painted."

The itinerant family is at the Sacajawea Inn and expects to leave La Grande tomorrow.

**Warm Northeast Winds End Snap In Middlewest**

Rising Temperatures Promised; Eleven Lives Lost in Storm-bound States

CHICAGO, Jan. 24 (AP)—Warm northeast winds, which will blow away the severe cold that has cost 11 lives in the middlewest, was today's promise to storm-bound states suffering the worst rigors of the winter.

Sufficient snow to make footing secure was forecast for Chicago while a rising temperature to from 10 to 25 degrees above zero was predicted.

The absence of snow here was in contrast to the intense cold and heavy snow that paralyzed traffic in parts of Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Trains were delayed and highways were blocked. In Chicago city pavements made driving treacherous.

The storm approached blizzard proportions in Michigan, where the cold accounted for five lives. Minnesota had four dead and two deaths here were attributed to the weather.

The Chicago victims were Ernest L. Heide and Charles Siefert, both firemen. Heide was electrocuted while attempting to repair a high voltage wire that had snapped under the weight of ice. Siefert slipped on the ice on a stairway while fighting a fire and plunged 40 feet to his death.

Whipped by a 40-mile gale, snow in the upper peninsula of Michigan blocked roads and delayed trains while at Sherwood, Wis., volunteers cleared a mile and a half of a snow-drifted road for a funeral 24 hours later. The funeral procession left Sherwood at noon Tuesday for a rural church, became snowbound and was forced to remain overnight at a farmhouse until farmers opened up the road.

**KEYES TELLS OF "GIFTS" FROM TAILOR**

Former District Attorney Denies Protecting Ben Getzoff

**ADMITS DRINKING DURING VISITS**

"They Were Just Social Calls", He Tells Los Angeles Jurors in Bribery Trial

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 24 (AP)—The daughter and wife of Asa Keyes, ex-district attorney, today were summoned to the courtroom as defense witnesses in the trial of the veteran prosecutor on charges of bribery.

In bringing his family to the court scene, defense counsel announced that Mrs. Keyes and her daughter, Elizabeth, subsequently would be placed upon the stand to testify. Another daughter, Annie, also may appear in her father's behalf, it was indicated.

As his wife and daughter sat huddled among the spectators who jammed the court chambers, Keyes resumed his place upon the witness stand to undergo the cross examination of the prosecution following his testimony for the defense yesterday.

Attacks Testimony Prosecutor William Simpson, setting out to break down his witness in which he alleged bribes given him, by the promoters of the defendant Julian Petroleum corporation whom he prosecuted and were acquitted, were solely "gifts" attacked the testimony relating to Ben Getzoff. Getzoff, pictured yesterday by Keyes as posing as a wealthy man, was owner of the tailor shop in which the alleged "fixing" of the Julian case occurred, and is accused of giving Keyes numerous bribes.

Simpson asked Keyes if he were not aware of many suits filed against Getzoff for non-payment of notes and other obligations, running from several hundred to thousands of dollars.

Keyes denied any knowledge of the actions. Simpson also asked him if he knew that Getzoff paid only \$22.22 in county taxes in 1925 and but \$21.50 in county taxes last year. Keyes said he had never seen the figures.

Admits "Gifts" Frankly admitting that he had accepted a \$425 chaise longue and a \$1150 radio set, Keyes testified that these things were "just gifts" from Ben Getzoff, whom he believed his wealthy patron. The \$5,300 which Getzoff paid for an automobile was a "personal loan," Keyes said, advanced to him by Getzoff and he could not get financially "on his feet" after leaving the office of district attorney of Los Angeles county.

"I dropped into the tailor shop two or three times a week," Keyes testified at one point. "They were just social calls. Sometimes I went there to get a drink," asked Deputy District Attorney William Simpson.

"Whiskey," said Keyes. "I don't know where Ben got the whiskey."

**OPEN CAMPAIGN FOR PROTECTION**

Minnesota Congressman Urges Tariff Increase on Stock, Produce

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (AP)—Opening the drive of the farmers for higher tariff protection for livestock and agricultural products, Representative Selvig, republican, Minnesota, urged the house ways and means committee today to increase duties on livestock, dairy and poultry products. They need corn, potatoes and potato starch, rutabagas and clover seeds.

He said the farmers were looking hopefully to congress for such relief and encouragement as can be given through the tariff and that the farmers expect to obtain for agriculture protection equal to that of any other American industry.

Selvig said the United States imports sufficient farm produce to displace the production of about 700,000 acres, or about 4% times the cultivated area of his home state.

Declaring stabilization of the livestock industry would result from higher duties, B. F. Davis, of Denver, representing the Colorado legislature, farm bureau and stock growers' association, urged the following rates:

Cattle for slaughter, 4 cents a pound; stockers and feeders, 3 cents; fresh beef and veal, 8 cents as against the present rate of 3 cents; sheep and goats \$3 a head against \$2; fresh mutton, 5 cents against 2 1/2; fresh lamb, 8 cents against 4; swine, 3 cents against 1 1/2; fresh pork, 5 cents against 3 cents; bacon and ham, 4 cents against 2; lard and lard substitutes, 4.6 cents against 15; and fresh meats not now specifically provided for, 30 cent ad valorem against 20 per cent.

Davis' proposal, which would call for applying the duties to the Philippines, whose imports are now duty free, also urged increases on

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**FIVE BANDITS SHOT DOWN IN DRUG STORES**

PHOENIX, Ariz., Jan. 24 (AP)—Two men were shot to death and a third was critically wounded today when they attempted to rob a drugstore and were surprised by police.

The men, all Mexicans, had entered the drugstore with drawn guns. Police who had been "tipped" to the robbery attempt had secreted themselves outside the store and closed in on the trio after they had broken into the establishment.

KANSAS (AP)—One man was shot to death and another critically injured here last night by the 49-year-old negro watchman of a drug store which they held up. W. W. Woods, the watchman, who already had been held up by the robbers, shot them both through the right lung when they proceeded to hold up the proprietor and customers in the store.

**Northcott Must Act As Attorney**

COURTROOM, Riverside, Cal., Jan. 24 (AP)—Gordon Stewart Northcott today failed in an attempt to have David Hokoi recognized as attorney of record in his trial for murder of three boys. Northcott sought to bring Hokoi into the case not with complete authority but as associate counsel with himself. Superior Judge George H. Freeman denied Northcott's motion.

Hokoi was given permission to sit at the counsel table with Northcott and act in an advisory capacity if he chose.

**UP TO PREXY**

Whether or not Enoch Bagshaw (below) is to remain as football coach at the University of Washington seems to be up to President M. Lyle Spencer of that institution. When students and alumni organizations became disenchanted, the matter was referred to the president, who is not expected to reach a decision for a day or so.



**CREW IS RESCUED FROM TORN SHIP IN FIERCE GALE**

Liner America Heading for Port Today With 32 Men Taken from Ill-fated Florida

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (AP)—Triumphant for a second time in a battle with the sea, Captain George Fried of the United States liner America was headed toward port today with the rescued crew of the Italian freighter, Florida.

"Rescued full crew Florida. Total 32. Chief Officer Harry Manning in charge. Whole westerly gale. Life boats lost. Details later."

These staccato sentences of Captain Fried's message to the United States coast guard told the essentials of the happy ending of a grim drama of the wintry Atlantic which opened when the America began her 350 miles race with death Tuesday.

Driving his ship through the wither of a mid-winter storm and taking his bearing on the disabled ship by means of a radio direction finder, Captain Fried steamed more than a day and a night on his mission of mercy.

The Florida, an Italian tramp steamer was bound for an Italian port from Pensacola, Fla., with a cargo of pine pitch when disaster overtook her 400 miles east of the Virginia Capes.

The America was bound for New York when Captain Fried turned her prow south to answer the S O S of the Florida.

CREW NEAR COLLAPSE NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (AP)—The New York American today prints a copyrighted radio dispatch from the steamship America saying the crew of the Florida, Florida were near collapse when rescued.

"They were in a weak condition," said the dispatch. "Many of them were stripped of the waist and their clothing badly torn. The injured ones were holed aboard by breeches rig. All were very tired and nearing collapse."

The message added that the Florida was abandoned.

**22 DROWNED**

BOGOTA, Columbia, Jan. 24 (AP)—Twenty-two persons were drowned in a disaster on the Magdalena river near Silla Nuevo when the river boat Social sank yesterday after an explosion of her boiler.

Advices received in Bogota today stated that two Americans and the parish priest of Calamar were among the survivors. The names were not given.

**40 LIVES LOST**

SHANGHAI, Jan. 24 (AP)—Forty lives were lost in the sinking of the Chinese steamer Hong Sang, formerly the German ship Sunkadan, it was learned today when 20 survivors arrived here.

**Dwight Morrow Sure to Remain An Ambassador**

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., Jan. 24 (AP)—Dwight W. Morrow is to return to Mexico City soon and remain an ambassador for an indefinite period. This became known authoritatively today after he had conferred for two hours with President-elect Hoover.

This is in accord with the ambassador's own desire and also with that of the next president who has high appreciation of the work the former internationally known banker has been rendering at Mexico City since his personal drafting by President Coolidge.

After his conference with the next chief executive at "Belle Isle" as the J. C. Penney estate is known, Mr. Morrow declined to make any statement to newspaper correspondents, who had waited for him two hours.

The ambassador was Mr. Hoover's only caller during the forenoon.

**Woman Clerk Slain Near Chicago Home**

CHICAGO, Jan. 24 (AP)—Miss Laura Brethlock, 25, a clerk, was clubbed to death and robbed a block from her home on West 122d street as she was returning from work last night. Her slayer escaped.

The only witness was Mrs. Grace Finley, a school teacher, who said she heard a glass screen door knock from her window in time to see "a man in a dark overcoat" dragging a woman's body across the street.

**MRS. BURCHARD, WIDOW TO WED PRINCE HENRY**

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (AP)—Mrs. Allene Tew Burchard, wealthy widow of New York and Paris, is to marry Prince Henry XXIII of Rouss, a member of one of Europe's oldest reigning houses.

Mrs. Burchard inherited an estate of \$2,800,000 on the death of her husband, Anson Wood Burchard, vice chairman of the General Electric company in 1927. She is now in Egypt and has chartered a houseboat on which she will be hostess to the prince and five friends on an extended cruise of the Nile. Announcement of the engagement was cable to friends.

The marriage will be Mrs. Burchard's third.

**MORE BILLS CONFRONTING LEGISLATURE**

Multnomah Law - maker Introduces Measures Concerning Election

SIX of the measures harmonize the law relating to absent voters and also the county clerk in days in which to prepare ballots. The present law, unintentionally, it is claimed, gives only 22 days.

Another bill requires discontinuance of the small ballot boxes for state and district ballots. Few election boards, it is said, now use both the large and small boxes as provided by law.

**Normal Dormitory ACTION PLANNED**

SENATORS ELLIOT AND DUNN introduced Wednesday a bill that would include normal schools in the dormitory act of 1927, which applies at present only to the other state institutions of higher learning. It authorizes the board of regents to sue the companies independent of legislative action by sending bonds to be retired by receipts from student enrollment.

For the first time at this session of the legislature the lobby really became stirred up today when Representative Weatherperson introduced a bill that would remove the requirement that privately owned utilities must get certificates of convenience and necessity from the public service commission before entering any territory for operation.

For some years this requirement has been on the statute books, on Tuesday of this week privately owned utilities received a solar plexus blow when the state supreme court held that certificates of convenience and necessity are not required of cities that wish to extend municipally-owned utilities to operations beyond the city limits. Judge McBride declared in the opinion that this was the law and that he found it necessary to so hold in the case of the Yamhill Electric company against the city of McMinnville. Speaking for himself, he added the comment that such a possibility was poor economics, that it would tend to stifle private enterprise without being hampered by state regulation.

It is probable that the Weatherperson bill was inspired by the supreme court decision, since it would throw down the bars for dent-elect Hoover.

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**THREE GIVEN REWARDS FOR HEROIC ACTS**

PITTSBURGH, Penna., Jan. 24 (AP)—The widow of Frank T. Johns, 39, Portland, Ore., carpenter, who drowned May 20, 1925, while attempting to save the life of John C. Rhodes Jr., 11, at Bend, Ore., will accept from the Carnegie Hero Fund commission a bronze medal and death benefit at the rate of \$70 a month, with \$5 a month for each of her two children. The citation was announced today. Mrs. Johns lives at 731 East Fortieth Street, Portland.

Johns died when he plunged in to the cold, deep water of the treacherous Deschutes river after the Rhodes boy had fallen from a bridge. Johns, fully clothed swam from the opposite bank 24 feet to the boy, gave him a shove toward the bank, struggled briefly and sank. The boy drifted about 15 feet farther and sank. Both drowned.

A bronze medal was awarded by the commission to Frances J. Gorthy, 16, Roseburg, Ore., school girl, who helped save Margaret L. French, 11, from drowning at Oldo Ore., on July 15, 1927. Miss Gorthy lives at 1276 Uniqua avenue, Roseburg.

A bronze medal was awarded to Mrs. Pearl Morton, White Salmon, Wash., mother of P. Leslie Morton, 23, who died saving Miss D. Jerriene Smith, 14, from drowning at Oswego, Ore., June 25, 1925.

**MINNESOTA CONGRESSMAN URGES TARIFF INCREASE ON STOCK, PRODUCE**

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