

CONVENTION OPENS HERE ON APRIL 8

Masonic Organizations of Oregon Will Come to La Grande

CHAMBER PLANS TO GIVE ASSISTANCE

Meeting Places to Be Announced Later; George T. Cochran Chairman of Local Committee

Clubs, organizations and individuals in La Grande are busy with preparations for the three important state conventions to be held in this city during the spring months.

The Knight Templar, the Royal Arch Masons and the Council, three Masonic organizations of Oregon, will hold their annual conventions here Apr. 8, 9, 10 and 11.

George T. Cochran is chairman of the committee in charge of arrangements for the four day convention which are three in one as the three separate organizations will meet at the same time.

At the meeting of the Union county chamber of commerce Tuesday A. W. Nelson, president, will appoint an entertainment committee to further plans for assistance in the entertainment and reception of the delegates in this city, he says.

"Any convention—especially of the type that are coming to La Grande this spring and summer—brings money into the city in material sums," Mr. Nelson states, and continues, "It's a business proposition. It's money in our pockets. Because we have the facilities to handle a convention of any ordinary size, both as to living quarters and as to meeting places, it would certainly be a foolish lack of foresight to let an opportunity of bringing money into the city slip by. The chamber of commerce has and will continue to lend every possible assistance to handling all conventions with courtesy and efficiency so that there will be lasting satisfaction among our visitors. While there is financial gain in conventions there is also a great personal responsibility on each citizen to collectively treat the guests as each of us would were these men our personal guests in our own homes. Keeping the finances of this resource solely in mind will soon kill the goose that laid the golden eggs."

Baker Council Has Part

At the convention of the Council the initiatory work will be put in by the Baker council.

H. E. Dixon, excellent high priest of the Royal Arch Masons in La Grande, is chairman of the automobiles committee.

The committee is planning to obtain the use of automobiles in La Grande to be used as "courtesy" cars to convey the guests to places where they wish to go.

The Order of Eastern Star in La Grande will serve luncheons to the delegates on three days of the convention and the Past Matrons' club will serve one day.

SEEK TEST OF CALVES TAKEN TO UNION SHOW

At a meeting of the directors of the Union County Dairy Herd Improvement association at Hot Lake Thursday a resolution was adopted requesting the managers of the Eastern Oregon Livestock show to require all cattle above the age of six months to be tested for contagious abortion before entry to the grounds.

The Dairy Herd Improvement association has been very active during the past year in testing dairy cows for abortion and has found a number of herds to be infected with this disease which perhaps causes more loss to dairy industry than any other disease, it is said.

Plans were also discussed at the meeting for securing new members for the association and for the organization of next years work.

Miss Sartain, La Grande High school dramatic instructor, spent two nights this week with the cast, helping in fitting the finishing touches on the acting, and she states that the play will be very entertaining. Farrell Murray is director.

RIVER AT PEAK NASHVILLE, Tenn., Mar. 29 (AP)—The Cumberland river stood at a crest of 54.1 feet here today and was expected by the government weather bureau to start falling tomorrow. Water stood in streets, dwellings and business houses in the river front section.

Two-Story Home Destroyed Here By Morning Fire

Amount of Loss Is Not Learned; Check of Fires This Year Shows Only One Per Cent Loss

A two-story frame residence building, located at the foot of the Second street viaduct, and known to many as the old Mrs. Price-Gates' place, was destroyed by fire at 4:45 o'clock this morning. The origin of the blaze is unknown.

When the fire alarm was turned in the flames had too strong a start to be extinguished. The home, which contained some furniture, was rented but apparently not occupied, firemen report.

The amount of the loss has not been arrived at, according to Fire Chief C. T. Lindsey. The owner of the building lives in another city and it will be necessary to communicate before estimating the loss.

Fire Losses This Year In connection with fire losses in La Grande this year, a check of the records today revealed the following:

During January there were eight fires with a total loss of \$177,290. The insurance paid amounted to \$77,900 and the insurance at risk was \$3,500.

February resulted in 10 calls and loss amounted to \$92,95 not including the fire at the Bessie Mires home on O avenue, which has not been adjusted. A permit, however, was taken out at the city recorder's office for alterations and repairs to the building, and this was in the amount of \$2,900. Whether the loss will be more or less than the building permit figure has not been reported to Fire Chief Lindsey as yet. Insurance at risk was \$22,500.

Seven This Month The call this morning was the seventh this month. Excluding this fire and the Masonic building blaze earlier in the month, which have not been adjusted, the loss so far this month equals \$787, which was the amount lost on the contents of the Masonic building. The Masonic lodge took out a repair permit for \$200, indicating that the loss would be about that figure, officials report. The value of the buildings and contents at risk this morning, amounted to \$35,000, with no loss on fire of the fires.

In general, with the amount of property and insurance at risk totaling about \$70,000, and the total loss about \$6,000, more or less, officials point out that so far this year the fire department's record has been very good, with the loss less than one per cent of the property at risk.

Class Meet Is Postponed Due To Bad Weather

Because of rain that started falling yesterday afternoon, the annual interclass track and field meet was postponed, according to Coach Ralph Christie.

If the track is dry enough this afternoon, the first half of the meet will be held today and the second half Monday afternoon. If inspection proves the track too wet, the meet will be staged Monday and Tuesday afternoon.

As the training season has been short, Coach Christie does not wish to run his squad on wet ground for fear of injuries that might prove damaging to interschool meet chances later in the spring. The track selected is expected to be completed tomorrow.

Elgin Man Passes On In La Grande

Peter Haughney, 69, died here Wednesday night following a long illness, according to announcement made today. He was a resident of Elgin and was well known over the county. He was employed by the La Grande and Grande Ronde lumber companies for several years and was a Union county resident for 15 years.

The body is at the Bohlenkamp chapel. Funeral arrangements are indefinite but may be held next week at the Catholic church. Mr. Haughney left no relatives.

Comedy Drama To Be Given Tonight

The three-act comedy drama "Welcome to the Old Home Town" will be presented at the L. D. & Second Ward chapel at 8 p. m. and X this evening and, from reports, will be one of the best plays ever staged by the organization.

Miss Sartain, La Grande High school dramatic instructor, spent two nights this week with the cast, helping in fitting the finishing touches on the acting, and she states that the play will be very entertaining. Farrell Murray is director.

FAKE BID IS DETECTED BY ROAD BOARD

Thorough Investigation to Be Made of Offer Opened Today

TO LET CONTRACT ON LOCAL WORK

Highway Commission to Resurface Highway Near Here, Build Bridge on Oregon Trail

PORTLAND, Mar. 29 (AP)—The state highway commission meeting here today indicated that the Multnomah county grand jury may be called on to investigate a fake bid of \$21,290 for construction of a bridge over the Malheur river on the Central Oregon highway. H. R. Van Duzer, chairman of the commission, said the bid was a palpable forgery and that the attorney general had been informed of the case.

The fake bid was accompanied by a surety bond on the non-existent Great Britain Surety, Ltd., and was signed by Andrew Scroggins, an agent. Scroggins is unknown. The bidder signed his name by mark, with the name Michael Bruner written in. Bruner is unknown. Bruner's address was given as 1455 Wilcox Building, a 12-story Portland structure. "A palpable forgery should not be attempted on the state of Oregon," Van Duzer declared, "and this one will be investigated to the limit."

"At first it seemed ludicrous that such a thing would be attempted in such a crude way, but when it was discovered that this was the low bid on the job, and that serious consequences might have resulted, we have determined to find out who attempted it, and to take the matter up with the courts. The bid will be let to the next lowest bidder. The room was crowded with officials."

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LOCAL PASTORS HOLD SERVICES

Good Friday Observed Today; Cantata at Presbyterian Church Tonight

Good Friday services in La Grande began at noon today, the beginning of the formal religious commemoration of Holy week, with a three-hour union meeting at the First Presbyterian church and a service at the same time at the Catholic church. An hour service from 2 until 3 was also planned at the Episcopal church.

At 7:30 o'clock tonight the vested choir of the Presbyterian church will present the sacred cantata, "The Seven Last Words of Christ."

"This beautiful cantata gives a wonderful visualization of the seven last words of Christ in music and words," Mrs. Alfred L. Richardson, director says.

Mrs. May Fuller, soprano, will sing the introduction, "All Ye Who Travel Upon the Highway," which will be followed by the first word, "Father, Forgive Them, for They Know Not What They Do," sung by the choir and by Paul Knautz, baritone and E. E. Hurley.

The second word will be sung by Mr. Hurley and Mr. Knautz in duet.

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Rebel Soldiers Moving On Loyal Column Near Chihuahua, Mexico

By H. Martin Glenn Associated Press Staff Correspondent WITH GENERAL ALMAZAN'S ARMY, Escobedo, Chihuahua, Mexico, Mar. 29 (Delayed)—Federal aviators scouting the movement of rebel forces near Jimenez reported tonight that a detachment of rebel soldiers was moving southward rapidly toward the federal column commanded by General Juan Andres Almazan.

Federal officers interpreted this movement as meaning that the rebels had determined to defend Jimenez and were seeking advantageous positions. The federal advance from Escobedo continued on schedule tonight. General Almazan's cavalry made contact with the rebels at Escobedo on Wednesday night. Two federal and four rebel were wounded before the insurgents fled in the darkness. The advance guards of General Serrato's cavalry rode into the town after dark and were fired on from the other end of the town. They returned the fire for 20 minutes before the rebels fled.

JIMENEZ, Chihuahua, March 29 (AP)—Mexican revolutionary forces occupied their stronghold at Jimenez today, awaiting the advance of the government army from the south, as rebel airplanes made a second bombing raid on federal forces at Bermejillo.

Express Doubt That Farm Aid Is Not Distant

Pessimistic Note Sounded By Kansas Witness; Senators, However, Do Not Share His View

WASHINGTON, Mar. 29 (AP)—A pessimistic note was injected into the farm relief hearings of the senate agriculture committee by E. Clemons Horst, of San Francisco, who expressed doubt that any general farm relief law would be enacted during the coming special session of congress. The committee members, however, made it clear they did not share this view. Chairman McNary read a telegram from Secretary Hyde which expressed doubt that he would be able to reach Washington by Monday when the committee hoped to hear his views on farm relief. Favors Co-operation The house agriculture committee heard John Wessely, of the Kansas Wheat Marketing Co-operative association, urge legislation which would make it of advantage to farmers to organize. Horst said that it was difficult for any witness to talk before the committee because neither the president nor congress seemed to know just what relief plan was wanted. Too many plans are being advocated, Horst said, and most of them "are no good."

"I am not at all hopeful we are going to get anything," he declared. "You are alone in that view."

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These Figures May Help Cupid Aim His Darts

CHICAGO, Mar. 29 (AP)—Heads full of figures were put together last night, and, as might be expected in the spring of the year, turned to statistics of love and marriage.

Dr. William F. Ogburn, University of Chicago sociologist, was the speaker before the American Statistical society and these were some of facts and figures he promulgated: Fifty-seven per cent of city residents over 15 years old will marry. Sixty-four per cent of rural dwellers will marry.

There's a spinster for every woman over 45 years old in the land. One in every 10 women over 15 years is a widow.

The death rate for single and widowed men is twice that for married men. Most of the inmates of insane asylums and almshouses are unmarried.

In one large city one in every 17 married women is divorced or separated from her husband.

Sheriff Fails To Find Mrs. Kennedy

LONGVIEW, Wash., Mar. 29 (AP)—J. J. Atwell, Kelso attorney and notary, commissioned by the impeachment commission of the California state legislature to take the deposition of Mrs. Minnie Kennedy in the Judge Hardy impeachment hearing, yesterday sent a subpoena for Mrs. Kennedy to Seattle by Sheriff C. B. Dill of Cowitch county.

Mrs. Kennedy was informed at the hotel where Mrs. Kennedy usually stays that she had checked out. He said he was unable to locate her. Mrs. Kennedy is not in Kelso or Longview.

PORTLAND, Ore., Mar. 29 (AP)—A check with all the more prominent hotels in Portland failed to disclose Mrs. Minnie Kennedy.

4,000 Rail Men To Strike in Texas

DALLAS, Tex., Mar. 29 (AP)—Railroad brotherhood officials announced here Wednesday that 4,000 train, engine and yard employees of the Texas and Pacific railroad had voted almost unanimously in favor of a strike.

The dispute between the men and the company involves working conditions and a demand of the employees that they be reimbursed for property losses incurred in the transfer of the railroad's division point from Longview, Tex., to Minola, Tex., last January.

DALLAS, Tex., Mar. 29 (AP)—J. A. Somerville, vice president in charge of operation of the Texas & Pacific railway, today asked President Herbert Hoover to appoint a special board of mediation to consider and report on the dispute between the road and its employees, which resulted in a strike order, effective at 6 a. m. tomorrow.

Explosion Kills Five At Mexicali NOGALLES, Sonora, Mexico, Mar. 29 (AP)—Five dead in an explosion caused by the manufacture of federal bombs at Mexicali, Baja California, stood out as the first casualties of the Mexican revolution on the north-western front.

CURTIS ON VACATION IN FLORIDA



Resting from the tiring whirl of inauguration activities, Vice President Charles Curtis was a late season vacation visitor at Miami Beach, Fla. The second chief executive was the guest of old neighbors from his home state of Kansas, with whom he is pictured here. Left to right are S. B. Rohrer, Vice President Curtis, Miss Laura Rohrer and Mrs. S. B. Rohrer.

Prominent "Dry" Is Charged With Liquor Violation

CHICAGO, Mar. 29 (AP)—A warrant for the arrest of Congressman M. A. Michaelson was issued today by U. S. Commissioner Edwin K. Walker.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Mar. 29 (AP)—A warrant for the arrest of Representative M. Alfred Michaelson of the seventh Illinois congressional district, charging violation of the national prohibition law, apparently has been in the hands of federal officers here since last October.

The nature of the six months' old charge was revealed last night by E. R. Williams, clerk of the federal district court here, who said Michaelson had been indicted by a federal grand jury for attempting to smuggle liquor into Florida from Cuba. Williams said the charge had not been made public at the time because arrest had not been made and no bond set.

The indictment is said to charge that one of Michaelson's trunks was seized at Jacksonville, after a bottle of liquor inside it had broken. Federal officers confiscated the trunk for investigation and the indictment followed. Federal officials here refused to give any other details of the case.

CHICAGO, Mar. 29 (AP)—Congressman M. Alfred Michaelson, of Chicago, indicted on charges of violation of the national prohibition act at Jacksonville, Fla., has been backed in his political career by the Anti-Saloon League and he has voted for several laws favored by the league, including the Jones law.

Japanese Tariff Protest Ordered

WASHINGTON, Mar. 29 (AP)—The state department has instructed the American embassy in Tokyo to bring informally to the attention of the Japanese government the effect the proposed Japanese tariff increase on lumber would have on the American lumber trade.

RAIL PROJECT PRESENTED TO I. C. C. TODAY

WASHINGTON, Mar. 29 (AP)—A project for the construction of 238 miles of railroad from Nysa, Ore., to Winnemucca, Nev., was placed before the Interstate Commerce Commission today by the Idaho Pacific Railroad Company, a new corporation.

The petition, signed by Robert Phillips, of 15 Willhall street, New York city, said that the Idaho Pacific corporation would finance the proposed construction by sale of stock. It added that the line contemplated would serve to connect northwestern territory with California railroads.

A military purpose also would be served by the proposed line, by providing new non-existent north and south communication in case of a Pacific coast war invasion, it was said. Opportunity to give more facts on the proposal was sought.

Explosion Kills Five At Mexicali

NOGALLES, Sonora, Mexico, Mar. 29 (AP)—Five dead in an explosion caused by the manufacture of federal bombs at Mexicali, Baja California, stood out as the first casualties of the Mexican revolution on the north-western front.

Oil Company Is Accused By Long, Louisiana Chief

Governor, Facing Impeachment Charges, Strikes Out at Corporation; Signs Statement

BATON ROUGE, La., March 29 (AP)—The Standard Oil company today had been drawn into impeachment proceedings by Governor Huey P. Long who charged its agents instigated the accusations from official misdeemeanors to a plot to murder against which he must defend himself Monday night before the house of representatives sitting as a supreme grand jury. In a signed statement, Governor Long charged the oil company was attempting "to tear the state wide open and to remove the governor from office who dares to mention that anything can be done with them."

He accused the company of spending ten thousand dollars in opposing his proposed tax on oil, saying "money has turned loose in sluices in Baton Rouge." He denounced the newspapers as Standard oil publications with their pages covered "with every imaginable lie and vilifications."

The Third Battle "This is the third time in my yet young life in which this nefarious corporation has been able to drag me before the bar to fight for my own liberty and political preservation, all just because I fought down the line until they were compelled to submit to me," declared the governor. "What I proposed was a tax on the business of the Standard Oil company to make and sell lubricating oil and gasoline in Louisiana. That form of tax has been and is now paid by nearly every merchant, doctor and lawyer and by nearly every business in this state. So I proposed that out of the same one hundred millions of dollars made by the oil trust in this state, that they pay the state a wee bit so that we might help these unfortunate human beings who are suffering and dying because we cannot help them and in order that we might give relief to schools that cannot run without some help."

"I had rather go down to a thousand impeachments than to admit that I am a governor of the state that does not dare to call the Standard Oil company to account so that we can educate our children and care for destitute, sick and afflicted. Rather than be governed by a few millionaires."

Small Town Love Affair It was a story of a small town love affair. Testimony brought out at the trial indicated Bryant and Miss Troxell, a pretty brown-haired waitress, had "kept company" for several months. They became engaged. Bryant went to Washington to work and letters followed from Miss Troxell.

When he returned, testimony indicated, he started drinking and more than once the pretty waitress remonstrated. One night when Miss Troxell feared Bryant, she asked Dickerson to accompany her home. That night Bryant armed himself with a butcher knife and lay in wait. He contended the knife was to be used at a picnic, but Miss Troxell said the knife, according to Bryant, was to be used to "slit somebody's back."

Bryant accepted the verdict stoically. His mother collapsed. Sentences will be passed at 10 o'clock Monday morning. The verdict was reached at 11 p. m. Twenty minutes later Judge G. F. Skipworth, of Eugene, was summoned, and Bryant, with his face set grimly, was led into the courtroom, crowded with fellow students of the slain man.

U. S. Army Blimp Wrecked by Wind; Fourth Accident

LAKEHURST, N. J., Mar. 29 (AP)—An army blimp was a tangle of wreckage today as the result of its rude reception by Jersey Coast winds while on a visit from Langley Field, Va.

The army non-rigid dirigible TC-5 was torn from the grasp of a ground crew of 100 and hurled nearly a mile by a gust of wind that struck it while it was being walked into the hangar. Captain John McCullough, commander of the blimp, and a seaman of the landing crew were slightly injured by being knocked down as the ship blew away.

Warrant Officer Lanister and three soldiers were aboard the blimp. They escaped uninjured when the ship, relieved of its helium gas, came down near the Lakehurst station. The accident to the TC-5 is the fourth mishap to overtake the blimps, which were originally built for the navy for experimental purposes.

The I. T. & T. was incorporated in 1929 and since then has acquired the International Western Electric company, the All America Cables, Inc., the Mackay companies and companies in South America, Europe, Cuba and Porto Rico.

Sheriff's Slayer Executed Today

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Mar. 29 (AP)—Lester Baker was hanged on the gallows at the Washington state penitentiary today for the murder of Sheriff Lester Wood of Vancouver in May, 1927, during a liquor raid. The trap was sprung at 4:34 a. m. and Baker was pronounced dead by Dr. J. W. In-gram, prison physician, 13 minutes later. The condemned man went to his death calmly.

Stimson Attends Cabinet Meeting

WASHINGTON, Mar. 29 (AP)—Secretary Stimson today attended his first meeting of the Hoover cabinet. President Hoover, however, has yet to preside at a full meeting of his official group, as Secretary Hyde of the agriculture department was absent today at his home in Missouri. Stimson took the oath of office late yesterday.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 29 (AP)—Happy as a schoolboy off for a vacation, former Secretary Frank B. Kellogg, relieved of his cares in the state department, left today for New York to board a steamer for a visit to France and England before returning to St. Paul to resume his law practice there.

BRYANT WILL SPEND LIFE BEHIND BARS

Corvallis Trial Comes to End When Jury Finds Defendant Guilty

RECOMMENDS TERM IN STATE PRISON

Six Hours Taken to Arrive at Verdict; Closes One of Oregon's Outstanding Cases

CORVALLIS, Ore., Mar. 29 (AP)—Laurie Bryant, 30, Corvallis "home town boy," who stabbed to death Lewis (Hip) Dickerson, Oregon State college grid star and assistant coach, in a fit of jealousy, today stood convicted of first degree murder and facing life imprisonment.

A jury, which deliberated a little more than six hours, returned a verdict of guilty late last night with a recommendation that Bryant be imprisoned in the Oregon State penitentiary for life. The state had demanded the death penalty.

Stabbed Dickerson Bryant stabbed Dickerson the night of Dec. 17 when he accosted the grid star and Max Troxell, Bryant's alleged fiancée, and an encounter followed. Dickerson, heavier than Bryant, bore him to the ground. Bryant plunged a long pointed butcher knife into Dickerson's side, puncturing a lung. He died four days later.

The verdict brought to a close one of Oregon's outstanding murder trials. Bryant, reared in Corvallis, a little Willamette valley college town, was well known as well as Dickerson. The case created considerable excitement in the town and each day of the trial found the court room crowded with onlookers.

Small Town Love Affair It was a story of a small town love affair. Testimony brought out at the trial indicated Bryant and Miss Troxell, a pretty brown-haired waitress, had "kept company" for several months. They became engaged. Bryant went to Washington to work and letters followed from Miss Troxell.

When he returned, testimony indicated, he started drinking and more than once the pretty waitress remonstrated. One night when Miss Troxell feared Bryant, she asked Dickerson to accompany her home. That night Bryant armed himself with a butcher knife and lay in wait. He contended the knife was to be used at a picnic, but Miss Troxell said the knife, according to Bryant, was to be used to "slit somebody's back."

Bryant accepted the verdict stoically. His mother collapsed. Sentences will be passed at 10 o'clock Monday morning. The verdict was reached at 11 p. m. Twenty minutes later Judge G. F. Skipworth, of Eugene, was summoned, and Bryant, with his face set grimly, was led into the courtroom, crowded with fellow students of the slain man.

After warnings against any demonstration, the verdict was read aloud. Bryant's face was without expression as he heard the verdict. Then he glanced around to where his aged mother, four brothers and two sisters sat. As the force of the penalty was realized Mrs. Bryant slumped into her seat, weeping. With the assistance of her sons she was able to walk from the courtroom.

After the court had announced that sentence would be passed next Monday, Mrs. Bryant collapsed.

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BASEBALL

PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE GAMES TODAY

AT LOS ANGELES—1st Inning Seattle.....0 Los Angeles.....2 Batteries: Piggas and Steinske, Pitt and Hannah.

JENSEN HOLDS SOLO FLIGHT RECORD TODAY

ROOSEVELT FIELD, N. Y., Mar. 29 (AP)—Martin Jensen today holds an unofficial solo endurance flight record of 35 hours 23 minutes and 21 seconds. The record was established when he landed at 4:34:55 p. m. yesterday day having been in the air eight minutes and 22 seconds longer than the time of the late Royal V. Thomsen.

It was unofficial because the National Aeronautical Association does not set solo records. It keeps only one endurance record irrespective of the number in the plot and without regard to sex. Officials of the association, however, supervise and time solo endurance flights.

WEATHER TODAY 7:20 a. m.—23 above. Minimum: 24 above. Condition: clear.

WEATHER YESTERDAY Maximum 52, minimum 42 above. Condition: cloudy.

WEATHER MAR. 29, 1928 Maximum 59, minimum 33 above. Condition: rain 16 of inch, traces of snow.