

ROAD CONDITIONS ARE IMPROVING

County Crew with Grader and Tractor Working Stretch Near Wallowa

By S. C. Meek (Observer Correspondent) WALLOWA, Ore. (Special)—Road conditions in this section are showing some improvement at present. At no time this spring have the roads been as soft as in the past week and this season is usually the case at this season of the year with the exception of the numbered sections toward Maxville, where mail carrier Charles Fisher reports them quite bad at this time. Before the recent storms the road in that section was drying up fairly well according to reports from those in that part, however, with several inches of snow falling during the past week and the frost just out in many places, heavy hauling of wood with wagons has cut deep ruts which make travel with cars quite difficult. A county road crew with heavy grader and caterpillar tractor has been in use on the stretch of dirt road east of town to the end of the gravel on the Whiskey creek market road. Here the road is being graded up. Some of the other dirt roads in this section are receiving work with graders and with none of them badly up it will not require any great amount of work to put them into first class condition. Some of the farmers in parts of the hill sections are able to use their cars at this time for the first time since the deep snows in the latter part of January. Ivan Vance and wife were La Grande visitors the latter part of the week. Earl Burchfield returned here Saturday from Klamath Falls, where he was called recently by the serious condition of his father, Edward Burchfield, who received some serious injuries about the head and face when caught between parts of a large lifting crane on which he was working. Latest reports from him indicated that he was slowly improving. Giles Plass and wife were visitors in town the latter part of the week. Exceptionally cold stormy weather has prevailed over this section of the country during most of the past week. The late storms have proved very severe on livestock. Short hay supplies had made it necessary for farmers and stockmen to get their stock onto the range as early as possible with very short feed to live on and much of this covered with snow part of the time, has given them a poor chance of starting to gain any in flesh yet. The past few weeks has been bad for ticks and considerable trouble has been experienced from this menace. No reports are heard locally where stock has been lost from this trouble. However, reports from the Troy section, where some of the stock has been on the range during the greater part of the winter, indicate that some losses have occurred there before the stockmen were aware of the serious situation. During the past few days the hills are beginning to show some green grass and everyone is hopeful that warmer weather is in store soon. The great shortage of green pasture has proved a serious drawback to sheepmen and every effort is being made at this time to get the sheep to range where at least some grass is available. E. F. Johnson, of Lower Valley, recently moved bands of his sheep to range in the Wallowa canyon, where it is stated that the grass is beginning to get fairly good for sheep range, although poor to what it usually is at this season of the year. Many of the smaller flocks can be handled to a good advantage at this time as they are being shifted around on parts of the ranches where the grass has made good enough start to provide much of their feed. A few of the late lambing bands are being lambled at this time, with practically all reporting good luck. In saving a large percentage of the lambs, E. R. Wolfe, of Middle Valley, reports a fine bunch of lambs from his flock of ewes at the farm. On Saturday Mr. Wolfe stated that he had mucked up 272 lambs and still had nine ewes which had not lambled yet. Including those, he feels that he will probably get at least 250 lambs from a flock of a few less than 200 ewes, which are mostly Hampshires. May, the small daughter of Mr.

PUT OUR WAY



By Williams

and Mrs. John Couch, was suffering several days the past week from a severe case of the flu. Mart Schaeffer, who was recently named as deputy assessor for this district, has been busy recently doing the work here. Under the new system all personal property is listed on a separate sheet from real estate, there being some changes also in the manner of listing the real estate, whereby all tillable land in the various sections is listed separately. Instead of just the total tillable acreage on each farm, while the volume of work is greater in this way for the year at starting, it is the belief of officials that when the news books are once arranged in this manner it will prove more satisfactory to all concerned, and tend to make errors less likely. C. W. Mumford returned home recently from a few days business trip to Pendleton. He made the trip by auto and reports the present cold wave quite severe there, as well as here. He says that during the entire time he was away he found it necessary to wear an overcoat. G. E. Reed, of Middle Valley, had the misfortune to lose one of his milk cows during the past week. C. A. Hunter was busy the latter part of the week branding some of his cattle, preparatory to putting them on the range. Lester Jackson finished plowing at the Dr. Gregory farm a couple of miles east of town. The latter is starting to start working the ground into shape for seeding as soon as the weather warms up. Lloyd McCrae, of Dry creek, was a business visitor in town the last of the week. He reports farm work starting off very slow in that section because of the greater part

of the farm land being far too wet to work yet. "Tape" Young and Orben Allen, of Minam, were visitors in town the last of the week. In commenting on the spring range situation, Mr. Young says the grass is beginning to get started along the breaks of the Wallowa canyon and that considerable warm weather will be necessary to make the grass large enough for good forage for stock. Orin Hudson, who has been working for Oscar Maxwell at his ranch in the hills recently, has been busy the past few days doing some farm work for Mr. McElroy, of Middle Valley. Seedling of sweet clover has been in progress on several of the farms in the hill sections during the past week. While the greater part of the land in that community is still too wet for working, some of the farmers who have not been able to get satisfactory stands of the sweet clover when they delayed their seeding until the soil was dry enough for working, have tried a different system of seeding this spring. Some of the seed has been sown on the ground as fast as the snow melted away. In some instances it former years when the seed has been sown in this manner some very satisfactory stands have been secured. Among those who have been seeding recently are: Giles Plass, L. V. Lathrop, John Couch and Sam Meek, L. W. Minam, who lives in the Lower Leap community, is the first of the farmers in that community to do any spring seeding of grain. During the past week he was busy working and seeding a field of Hard Federation wheat. A number of the farmers in the Lower Valley and Dry creek sections have done considerable plowing during the past ten days. Work is reported to have been considerably later in starting up the valley as much of the ground seems wetter, especially since the numerous snow storms of the past week. Charles and Jasper Johnson, of Lower valley, were business visitors in town the last of the week. John Couch, of Leap, was a visitor in town the first of the week getting some lumber with which to build a broader house. Friends in this community were saddened to learn of the death of the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hanes at Lostine, Thursday. Mr. and Mrs. Hanes have been residents of Parsnip creek section for the past number of years, but during the past winter have been

working at a lumber camp on Alder slope. Funeral services were held at Lostine Saturday with burial in Lostine cemetery. Mrs. John Couch, of Leap, received a shipment of baby chicks during the past week. The chicks fate reported to be thriving despite the winter-like weather.

Soviet Disarm Proposal Would Scrap Big Ships

GENEVA, Apr. 17 (AP)—Soviet disarmament proposals which would entail scrapping of 800,000 tons of American warships were explained today to the session of the preparatory commission on disarmament of the league of nations. General Alexander Langsovd, Russian military expert, in defending and explaining his country's proposals, pleaded for a maximum of 10,000 tons displacement for warships as against 35,000 tons fixed by the Washington conference. He charged that the 10,000 ton cruisers being constructed now when they take the sea will have a displacement of 14,000 tons. The soviet proposals he explained as having four points: First: Reduction instead of mere limitation of armaments. Second: Extensive reduction of the armaments of larger countries but lesser reductions for smaller nations. Third: Destruction of offensive armaments while purely defensive armaments are left untouched. Fourth: Consolidation of peaceful positions of the nations.

Car Damaged In Accident Near Union, Monday

By W. V. Connor (Observer Correspondent) UNION, Ore. (Special)—About 10 o'clock Monday evening, William Dobbin Jr., son of W. Dobbin, of Union, lost control of his sedan while driving along the highway at the Miller curve and went into the ditch. The car struck the edge of a cement culvert, jumped to the other side, struck a fence post and turned over before it stopped. It is believed that some trouble with the steering wheel caused the car to leave the highway. The driver and other occupants of the car received minor injuries. The car was brought back into town badly damaged.

sale of tickets will go into a fund being raised to place a memorial in the city park in honor of the world war veterans. Both performances were well patronized. Earl Roberts was over from La Grande Monday evening to play with the Union band which gave a short concert on the street just before the Legion pictures. A play entitled "A Worthy Vagabond" will be given at the school Friday night by a cast from the junior class of the Union High school. It has also been planned to hold an afternoon matinee for the special benefit of the grade pupils. Union was well represented along the banks of Catherine creek Monday and several fine strings of trout were brought in. Even some of the high school boys were out on leave of absence for a day of fishing.

Young Man Killed By Hit-Run Driver

STOCKTON, Cal., Apr. 17—(AP)—The body of a young man 25 to 35 years old, apparently the victim of a hit-run automobile driver, was found on the West Manteca road shortly after midnight last night by Warren C. Ertle, city engineer of Pasadena. The body, with the chest crushed, was dressed in white corduroy trousers, a white shirt, a dark coat and a moleskin sport coat similar to those worn by aviators. Moustache and hair were sandy. The only mark of identification was a laundry mark, H30. If you are going to have common sense, have it when you drive up to a grade crossing.

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