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Pray Believing—And all things whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive—Matthew 21:22.

BAKER "ADOPTS" FOOTBALL PLAYERS

The difficulty between the La Grande and Baker high schools over the eligibility of several Baker players is a matter for regret among those who enjoy clean, fair interscholastic sport. La Grande school officials especially regret the necessity for a protest, filed with the state board yesterday, but the facts of the case indicate that no other course was open.

For some weeks the rumor of questionable football activities at the Baker school have been current. A Baker business man admitted quite openly to a La Grande citizen that good football players had been "brought" to Baker to bolster up the 1929 team. A traveling salesman living in Baker made the frank statement that there was no doubt about Baker having four or five "ringers" on the team this fall.

And now comes a strong alibi story in the Baker Democrat-Herald as rumblings of the impending storm reached the ears of Baker's coach and officials. The story admits that several stars of the high school football team are "new" in school this year but consumes a column and a half of space to explain (in the obvious phraseology of coach or school official) that each of these valued players have been legally adopted in Baker and are therefore entirely eligible. The paper goes to the length of quoting the eligibility rule regarding residence.

"This wording" says the Democrat-Herald, "seems to leave no doubt of the eligibility of the boys in question and Principal Walker anticipates no successful attack on them from this angle." Is there another angle from which he does fear a successful attack? Should there be any question of an eligibility attack from any angle whatever in high school athletics?

Baker has been very careful to see that all the legal requirements have been met in providing this new football material. In addition to that, with a protest feared, the Baker paper appears yesterday in a frantic effort to keep the school's skirts clean. It says in part:

> "The other boys are under La Grande displeasure because their parents do not live here, although their legal guardians, as shown by the court records, do. Parker's mother lives near North Powder. Crawford and Weber are orphans who make their own way and attend school where they can get work. Weber and Eilers have older brothers who are Oregon State graduates and friends of George Scott, Baker coach. They want their younger kin to attend their alma mater and want them to play football. They were responsible for having the boys come here, where they could be coached by an Oregon State coach, Schissler's assistant last year. Eilers left Canby because he could not get certain courses in the smaller school there." Etc., etc.

Two of the questioned players are orphans, the Democrat-Herald says. An interesting statement because one of them has parents residing in Corvallis, so a telegram from the high school principal there says, and the other has a mother living in Burbank, California.

One need not do more than read the Baker paper's article to become most suspicious of the circumstances under which some of these football players took up an "adopted" residence in Baker and enrolled in Baker high school. It is an unfortunate mess, partially disguised by compliance with the letter of the eligibility law. But there is obvious violation of the spirit of the law, in The Observer's opinion. Which is worse than the former.

There is no occasion for this kind of thing in high school athletics. One of the most laudable characteristics of school football in recent years in Eastern Oregon is that it has been clean, strictly above board. Teams have been formed from the home material available. They have won or lost on merit. No suggestion of "ringers" has been found in Pendleton, La Grande or Enterprise—and none in Baker in recent years.

The Friday game between La Grande and Baker is of small consequence. It will make no difference in the long run whether Baker wins or loses with players brought to that school by tactics outside the spirit of the eligibility ruling. The important thing is that tactics of this kind be stamped out, that scholastic football be kept clean. Player importations do not fit.

If eligibility rules do not permit the state board to rule out such cases, legal as they may be on the surface, they should be revised so that similar occurrences will be impossible. That may not be possible this season but it should be next. The goal of Oregon high school officials should be to see that "ringing" practices do not become permanent.

Cove Hunter Is Injured in Minam Area; Leg Hurt

By Mrs. A. G. Conklin
(Observer Correspondent)

COVE, Ore., (Special) — Clarence Richards suffered a severe injury to his knee while hunting in the Minam country Saturday. A rock turned with him and he was thrown twisting his knee and tearing the ligaments. The knee was badly lacerated and the knee cap injured. He was brought out and taken to Hot Lake where an operation was performed early Monday. The injured member was so badly swollen that an operation could not be performed sooner. Earl and Roy Richards, sons of Clarence, who have been visiting their father for the last week returned to their homes in Portland Sunday.

Miss Mae Stearns and her sister, Mrs. Frances Dougherty were in Cove Wednesday. Miss Stearns was taking some pictures of the high school.

One of the pleasant events of the week was the party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Bertsch Saturday evening. The hostesses were Mrs. Bertsch, Mrs. Helene Lincoln, Mrs. C. G. Springer, Mrs. L. E. Anderson and Mrs. L. R. Lay. The house was beautifully decorated with autumn leaves, branches of woodvine and perennial asters. An abundance of Jack o' Lanterns was used also in decorating the home. Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Springer were in charge of the evening's entertainment and kept the company in a gale of merriment from beginning to end. Lunch of cider, doughnuts, sandwiches and coffee was served at a late hour. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Comstock, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Coad, Miss Bernice Via, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Baum, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Becker, Robert and Troy Becker, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fisher, Mrs. A. G. Conklin, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Fletcher, Miss Zellerand and Mrs. T. C. Hefty.

Hans Selfors is paying his monthly visit to Cove where he is testing several herds of cows. Among the herds tested are those of R. S. Comstock and C. E. Bertsch.

E. E. Coad, who is teaching at Athena, spent the weekend at home with his family.

Mrs. C. G. Springer is one of the reception committee of the state grange meeting in La Grande Saturday, Oct. 26.

Mr. and Mrs. Otho Eckersley, of Portland, who have been at Hot Lake for the last week where Mrs. Eckersley is taking treatment, came over to Cove Sunday with Mrs. Frank Keiser, of Waitsburg, Wash., and two friends from the Lake. Something went wrong with their car while here and Mr. Weimeg had to tow them to Hot Lake.

Charles Hefty, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Hefty celebrated his fifth birthday anniversary Sunday. His guests were Betty and Jean Koger. Other guests at the birthday dinner were Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Koger, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Antles and Archer Antles.

Saturday was a day of special rejoicing with two birthday anniversaries and one wedding anniversary, Mrs. Thomas Hefty and W. J. Hallmark each added another milestone to their years and Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Comstock were married 19 years on the 19th day of October.

Mrs. T. R. Conklin was hostess to the Ladies Guild at her home Saturday afternoon. Bouquets of Caroline Testout roses and snapdragons were used in decoration. Four tables of bridge were at play. Mrs. Thomas Hefty won high score and Mrs. E. E. Coad was given the consolation prize. The women brought their blue boxes containing their "thank offering." This offering is collected semi-annually and deposited in the bank and the interest ads quite materially to the sum at the end of the three year period when it is presented at the general convention. Lunch was served after the games. Mrs. J. R. Fletcher will entertain the guild Saturday afternoon, Nov. 2.

Mrs. Lee Childers entertained the Dorcas society of the Baptist church at her home in Lowder Cove Thursday afternoon. This was a very special meeting as Mrs. McAdory of La Grande, was present and gave a very delightful story of her trip around the world, dwelling especially on the work done in the mission field. She had with her many interesting souvenirs of her trip. Mrs. Walter Platt sang and the women of the church put on a little play entitled 'Aunt Polly Joins the Mission Service.' The women brought their sewing and worked during the program. Luncheon was served at the close.

The service at the Methodist Episcopal church was in charge of the pastor, the Rev. W. A. Winters, both in the morning and evening.

A three-day rally of all Christian forces in Union, Wallowa and Baker counties will be held at North Powder Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 22, 23 and 24, under the leadership of the Holiness association. Dr. C. C. Poling of Corvallis, state president of the association will be present as will also the Rev. Rosella Douglas, state prayer organizer, and the Rev. F. A. Brown who will take charge of the song service.

The freshmen of the Cove high school gave a return party Friday evening at the high school assembly room. The program consisted of a stunt put on by each class and between the stunts Jack Paige and Alvin Peterman entertained with character monologues. The freshmen gave a prize to the class giving the best stunt and this was won by the seniors. The freshman stunt was a domestic science class with Joan Baum as teacher. The sophomores presented a radio broadcast from Cove high which was very clever. This won second place. The juniors sang songs as they used to be sung and as they are now sung.

Mrs. George McDaniel will entertain the Fun and Joy Bridge club at her home in La Grande Saturday afternoon Oct. 26.

Mrs. Lulu Butler, Mrs. Louine May of Baker, and Mrs. Sylvia McNeill, of La Grande were dinner guests at the W. A. McNeill home Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore McClain who have been working in the fruit at Payette, Idaho came home Sunday but returned Monday for another two weeks and they may locate there.

Union Epworth League Elects New Officials

By W. V. Connor
(Observer Correspondent)

UNION (Special)—At a meeting held Sunday evening at the Methodist church the Epworth League finished their reorganization by electing a set of officers for the year. Kathryn Kielblock was elected president, Doris Sturgill secretary, Leonard Clarke treasurer, Dora Crouter first vice president, Ethel Conklin second vice, Dave Tripp third vice and Wanita Sturgill fourth vice. The first cabinet meeting of the league is called for Tuesday evening when the year's work will be more fully planned. Twenty-four young folk signed up as members of the organization.

Mr. Hughey, who came over from Pendleton the latter part of the week to meet his daughter and to meet old friends, returned to his home Sunday evening accompanied by his daughter, Mrs. Alfred Crossland. Mr. and Mrs. Crossland had been here for a visit at the home of his father, Oscar Crossland. He returned to his home in Portland Sunday morning.

The Union high football squad, composed mostly of freshman and sophomores, went to Baker Friday and played the junior high Baker team a tie game, neither team being able to score. Cove will probably be here for a return game with Union this weekend.

Four members of the local Rebekah lodge, Mrs. Charley Cross, Mrs. Flora Kielblock, Mrs. Sadie Connor, and Mrs. Pearl Shaw, and three delegates from the Odd Fellows lodge attended the county meeting in La Grande Tuesday night where they helped plan the joint meetings for the two lodges during the winter. La Grande, Union, Elgin, Cove and Summerville lodges are in the association and each will be host to the other lodges once during the winter. Union will entertain the association in March.

Sidney Lay, a little first grade boy from the South school, met with a rather serious accident Thursday noon while crossing Main street. Two cars were passing and the little fellow failed to notice the second one. He was taken to a physician immediately and although he was knocked unconscious the child seemed to have suffered no serious injurys. Reports say he is improving.

Work on the building of the new Smith service station at the north end of Main street is going forward rapidly. A station and dwelling will be erected and it is believed there will also be cottages for tourist trade.

Among the Unionites who attended the La Grande-Enterprise football game Saturday afternoon were Tony Smith, Ole Hare, W. V. Connor, Adrian Goodbred, Ralph Connor, Joe Parent, Biffs Dobbin, Roy Conklin and K. P. Conner, the last two acting as officials for the game.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Griggs and Miss Kathryn Kielblock were visitors in Baker Saturday.

About 25 Union fans attended the football game at the Normal school Friday afternoon.

Miss Mae Stearns, La Grande photographer, was taking group pictures in the local schools Friday.

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WEST POINT TO CHANUTE FIELD

Lieut. Wilson, Illini Football Coach, Flies to Rantoul

Lieut. Wilson is "Lighthorse" Harry Wilson, captain of the 1927 Army eleven, who has been sent to Rantoul for flying instructions. The Army meets Illinois in Memorial stadium, November 9, and the campus fears Lieut. Wilson will be flying about watching the Illinois at their football chores.

The mayor of Lynn, Mass., issues an edict commanding the ladies to wear stockings. With winter just around the corner, it looks to be as good a time as any to issue an order like that.

BRIEF MENTION

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Russell drove over from La Grande Sunday afternoon and visited for a short time at the W. V. Connor home.

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Sturgill and Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Sturgill motored to Elgin Sunday where they were guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stringham.

Grand Master Peterson of the subordinate lodge of Odd Fellows was in Union Wednesday night for an official visit but owing to the letter announcing his visit not being received the local lodge was not prepared to entertain the state officer. A few members met him and it was decided to join with the meeting in La Grande Friday night. Several members made the trip to La Grande.

Misses Helen Hulse and Virginia Ivy were La Grande visitors Saturday.

Ellis Mitchell who recently sold out his farming equipment has moved to Baker county and will engage in the sheep business.

STUDENTS WONDERING

CHAMPAIGN, Ill., Oct. 23 (AP) —University of Illinois students are wondering if there is any significance in the transfer of Second Lieut. Harry Wilson from West Point to Chanute field at Rantoul, Ill., and also, how much can a football coach learn from an airplane?

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