

CITY
EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER

OREGON: Fair tonight and Thursday with local valley fogs in west portion Thursday morning. No change in temperature.

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LA GRANDE, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20, 1929

MEMBER A. B. C.

NUMBER 329

OIL COMPANY
WAREHOUSE
BURNS DOWN

Tanks at Island City
Threatened for Awhile
This Morning.

PUMPER TRUCK IS
STILL AT SCENE

Loss Believed Partly Covered
by Insurance—
About 10,000 Gallons of
Oil Destroyed.

For a time threatening nearby oil company tanks, a smoldering blaze that destroyed the Fletcher Oil company warehouse at Island City this morning, was still burning early this afternoon with the La Grande fire department's pump and truck standing by to guard against any second outbreak.

The origin of the fire is not definitely known, although it blazed up a little after 3 o'clock this morning, soon consuming the warehouse and burning a large quantity of oil, etc., contained in the building. Three of the Vellux tanks, adjoining the warehouse, were saved from destruction by the La Grande firemen, who kept a continuous force of water pumped from a nearby source, on the cylinders while the flames were at their hottest.

By 11 o'clock the warehouse was in ruins but a few barrels and cans of oil, etc., were still burning. At about 1 o'clock word was received here that the pumper truck and its crew would remain at Island City until all danger was passed, which might require several hours.

Had the three tanks caught fire and exploded, the General gasoline plant, nearby, would have been in great danger, and it is said that the fire department on the other side but further away, might have been menaced.

Loss Large
As it was, it is believed the loss will amount to a large sum, as both the building and its contents were destroyed. Approximately 10,000 gallons of oil was in the building, besides other stock.

For awhile the fire was very spectacular, with flames and clouds of smoke shooting high into the air.

It was said here that the blaze started when a tank was being unloaded. Reports are that it started at the motor and pump.

It is understood that the plant was insured. Mr. Fletcher is in Boise at present. The local plant is operated by Rodney Shale and Robert Harris.

"Traffic on the highway was stopped for awhile when the fire was at its peak."

SENIOR CLASS
TO PRESENT ITS
PLAY THURSDAY

The first presentation of "So This is London" senior class play was given yesterday afternoon in the high school auditorium for the grade school students and was enthusiastically received, and enjoyed by the pupils who filled the assembly.

Southern went on reserve this morning at the Glassford store, and the play will be given tomorrow night at 8 o'clock. This afternoon another matinee was held for the grade school pupils.

EUGENE YOUTH SENTENCED

EUGENE, Ore., Nov. 20 (AP)—Ivan Brent, Eugene youth, was sentenced to four years in the state prison, but paroled to Harry Brown, Latah county sheriff, in circuit court here yesterday.

Brent was convicted in connection with the death of Kenneth Dillard in an automobile accident here last August.

His driver's license was revoked for four years.

XMAS BENEFIT CAID

CHICAGO, Nov. 19 (AP)—Jack Dempsey will promote a Christmas benefit boxing show for Chicago's needy at the coliseum next Tuesday night. It will be an all-heavyweight card with Les Mariner, former university of Illinois boxer, meeting George Hoffman of New York in the ten round knifep.

MENJOI UNDER KNIFE

PARIS, Nov. 19 (AP)—Alophie Menjoir, American film star, injured at a operation for appendicitis today at the American hospital. Dr. Charles Abbot, who operated, said he was entirely successful, and that the patient's condition was good.

WEATHER TODAY

7:30 a. m. 14 above.
Minimum, 13 above.
Condition: Clear.

Weather Yesterday
Maximum, 43; minimum, 18 above.
Condition: Clear.

Weather Nov. 20, 1929
Maximum, 43; minimum, 21 above.
Condition: Clear.

Cold Wave Hits
West; La Grande
Low Mark Is 13

Four Above Zero at
Meacham Today—
Rocky Mountains Have
Sub-Zero Weather.

Although the weather remains dry and clear, the mercury took a decided drop in Eastern Oregon last night and this morning, reaching a minimum of 13 above in La Grande, the coldest registered since late last winter. A bright sun at 7:50 o'clock had only warmed up the city one degree, and the temperature then was 14 above.

Meacham, from reports received here, was the coldest spot in this section, with the mercury down to an unofficial four above. Enterprise, although at a higher altitude, is reported to have had 14 above, with Telecast registering 16 above. Elgin was a degree colder than La Grande with 12 above.

From Wallawa, reports are received that some farmers report that the absence of rain or snow in large amounts has prevented some winter wheat from sprouting.

The cold wave appears to be general over the western section of the United States, with zero and

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Miss Traver Is
Rotary Speaker;
Tells of China

Miss Edith Traver, missionary from China, who is visiting in Union county for a few days, was the speaker at the Rotary club luncheon today at noon. Miss Traver, in an interesting talk, spoke of the present situation in China, emphasizing the fact that Americans were very well treated by the Chinese as they appreciated their friendship and sympathy.

Tickets for the Rotary club play in the high school auditorium Tuesday, Nov. 26, were distributed to the members of the club to sell. Reservations may be made at the Glass H. H. Condit, director of the play, said the rehearsals are going along in fine shape and that he believes the most successful play in his experience.

C. M. Humphreys, spoke briefly during the hour, telling of his earlier experiences on the railroad out of La Grande, recalling several of the outstanding characters of that day.

Dick Lindsey played two pleasing violin selections which were greatly enjoyed by the club.

Gun Club Buys
Grounds; Plans
Made for Shoot

The La Grande Gun club, which now has about 70 members in its organization, has purchased the Lone Tree grounds east of La Grande on the Old Oregon Trail highway. It was announced today.

The members plan to hold a series of shoots, the proceeds of which will be used to erect suitable buildings of a permanent nature that would attract many inland Empire crack shots to participate. The club is eager to increase the interest in trapshooting in this locality and hopes that additional men will join in the shoots.

The first trapshoot of the series will be given on next Sunday, Nov. 24.

Hold Conference
In Local Church

A conference on "Stewardship and Evangelism" started this afternoon at 2 o'clock at the English Lutheran church. The Rev. W. E. Brinkman, of Portland, was the speaker and is also scheduled to speak at a session to be held in the church at 7:30 o'clock this evening.

Have Open House
At Public Library

In observance of book week, the public library will have open house Thursday evening in all departments. "The public is cordially invited to visit us and spend an evening just browsing," says Miss Doty. "To make it doubly interesting, we have a very attractive collection of new books, which will be put into circulation at 7:30 o'clock. The exhibit of books and 20th century stories made by the high school students to represent books which they have read is attracting much attention. Of particular interest is the world map entitled "Around the World With the Sophomores." The sophomore English classes have been reading travel books since the beginning of school, and each flag on the map represents some book read. No one should miss this exhibit."

Miss Doty says all who have not seen the boys' and girls' library to take this opportunity to visit it.

UTAH FAVORS
BUILDING OF
RAIL PROJECT

Considerable Expansion in
Coal and Iron Industries
is Forecast.

IMPROVED RATES
ARE ANTICIPATED

Coal Shippers Expect a
Decrease in Rates From
\$7.65 to \$5.90 to Klamath Falls.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20 (AP)—Considerable expansion of Utah's coal and iron industries was forecast today by spokesmen for the state in testimony here before an interstate commerce commission examiner should their intervention in the Great Northern-Western Pacific railway linking project with the commission's approval for the proposed line.

Representatives of various Utah shipping organizations told of the improved rates they expected to get over the proposed route from Keddle, Cal., to Klamath Falls, Ore., and added that the recent purchase by the United States Steel corporation of the Columbia steel properties in Utah would contribute to development of the state's resources.

H. W. Prickett, representing the Utah Shippers and Traffic association and the Utah Coal Producers' association after much of his testimony had been thrown out because of its argumentative nature, flatly asserted that granting the petition to build the 200 mile railroad would be in the best interest of the people of Utah because it would open new markets for Utah producers and similarly serve Utah buyers.

For the producers in the Iron region there are estimated to be 20,000,000 tons of high grade iron ore and 30,000,000 tons of coking coal, he said, saying:

"We have figured that rates made by Columbia Steel engineers. Better transportation was expected from the new line, he explained, the substantial development of these resources.

Prickett said coal shippers expected a decrease in rates from \$7.65 to \$5.90 from Utah to Klamath Falls. He pointed out that Southern Pacific rates to Oregon were lower than the Southern Pacific line approached the coast although Utah shippers were

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LOCAL WOMAN IS
HURT IN ACCIDENT

Mrs. Frank Anderson in
Hospital at Baker—
Injured Monday Night

Rumors were heard here today that Mrs. Anderson, who was injured Monday night, had succumbed, but a telephone call to Baker disclosed this to be merely a rumor.

Mrs. Anderson, who makes her home on Cedar street near M avenue, is the mother of two girls, one attending high school.

BAKER, Ore., Nov. 20 (Special)—Mrs. Frank Anderson of La Grande was seriously injured Monday night when the automobile she was driving plunged off a culvert at the railroad depot in Huntington. She was brought to St. Elizabeth's hospital in the Baker Funeral Home ambulance. Mrs. Anderson was injured principally about the chest by the steering wheel.

Two other women with her escaped injury.

According to reports received here, Mrs. Anderson was turning her automobile around in the driveway at the depot when the machine nose-dived off the culvert and turned over on its side in the six-foot ditch.

Mrs. Anderson, accompanied by the two women, drove to Huntington to meet her husband, who is a brakeman for the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company. She was at the depot when the accident occurred.

Harry Sinclair, Oil King, to Be
Released From Prison at Midnight

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20 (AP)—Harry E. Sinclair, oil emperor, linked with the phals and petrois of the District of Columbia jail pharmacy today for the last time. At midnight he will leave all that behind, his sentences for contempt of court and contempt of the senate are completed.

After six and one-half months of confinement, the multi-millionaire is expected to go at once to his luxurious Long Island home.

Roger W. Babson
Is Assailed By
Senator Borah

Statistician, Who Said
Stock Crash was Partly
Due to Senate Debate,
Called Unreliable.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20 (AP)—Roger W. Babson, business statistician, who charged in a newspaper article today that the senate debate on the tariff was partly to blame for the stock market crash, was assailed as "unreliable" in the senate by Senator Borah, Republican, Idaho.

Taking the floor after Senator Heflin, Democrat, Alabama, had described Babson as a "tool of the predatory interests," and Senator Walsh of Montana, acting Democratic leader, had characterized the statistician's statements as "obviously false," Borah said:

"He is utterly unreliable as to facts and utterly unsound as to his predictions."

The Idahoan said Babson, who was supposed to be unbiased in his business predictions, apparently was bleeding the cause of those who would have the protective tariff system apply to manufacturing interests alone.

He said all the coalition in the senate was striving to do was to obtain a better share for agriculture in the protective tariff system.

After asserting industrial incomes had increased 52 per cent since 1919 and agricultural incomes had declined 20 per cent, Borah said:

"We serve notice on Mr. Babson and all his kind that until we do all we can to remedy this unequal condition we will not cease in our efforts."

Senator Glass of Virginia, a former Democratic secretary of the treasury, declared the Babson article to be "directly a part of an effort to divert attention away from those responsible for this disaster."

FAVORS STATE
PRINTING OF
SCHOOL BOOKS

SALEM, Ore., Nov. 20 (AP)—Arthur Brock, former of the state printing plant and member of an interstate committee created by the 1922 legislature to investigate the advisability of state printing of text-books, declares that state printing of text for the grade schools would save parents over \$100,000 a year, Brock has returned from California where he investigated state text-book printing and reached his conclusion during his inquiry there.

"We have figured," Brock said, "showing that about \$300,000 is spent annually in Oregon for text-books used in the grades. I am convinced that we could produce these books in the state printing plant for less than \$200,000."

Brock said he did not think it would be practical for Oregon to print high school texts at the present. California is not doing it, but is expecting to soon, he said.

Pilot Killed, But
Passenger Escapes

NEW YORK, Nov. 20 (AP)—Charles Reid, a pilot in a private airplane from Roosevelt field, was killed when the craft crashed on the roof of a Y. M. C. A. building in West 64th street this afternoon.

His passenger, Robert Hallie, landed in a nearby street in a parachute, apparently uninjured.

Congress to Take
Vacation of Week

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20 (AP)—The senate today voted to adjourn sine die at 10 o'clock Friday night, allowing for a week's respite between the special and regular sessions.

House leaders today said they would be confident that the body would offer no objection to adjournment of congress next Friday.

SEAPLANE FORCED DOWN

TERLANOVA, Pausania, Sicily, Nov. 20 (AP)—It was reported here today that a seaplane enroute from Ostia, the seaport of Rome, to Sardinia had made a forced landing in the Mediterranean.

One man was reported dead and a number of others slightly injured. Among the latter was Angelo Manaresi, under-secretary of war.

Portions of the two sentences concurrently and with allowances for five days off each month for good behavior, his stay in the jail was reduced to six months and fourteen days.

Drug store experience gained in the early days of his career led to his assignment as jail pharmacist and assistant to the jail physician.

A storm of criticism was aroused when it was discovered that his duties took him beyond the walls of the jail and included frequent rides in the Washington water-front.

These were discontinued by Warden William L. Burke at the direction of his superior officers.

GIRLS TAKE OREGON HONORS



Women students at University of Oregon are more than on an equality with the men in studies—for five out of the six elected by Phi Beta Kappa, scholastic honor society, this fall are co-eds. And here are four of them. Above, LaWanda Farnson and Naomi Holman. Below, Katherine Karpenstein and Mary Klem. The other honor students are Mrs. Jeanette Edge and Karl Landstrum.

Hines To Build
New Lumber Mill
In Fir District

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 20 (AP)—Edward Hines, Chicago millionaire and head of the Edward Hines Lumber company, which is spending \$5,000,000 on a pine lumber mill project at Burns, Ore., said today his company was contemplating a comparable development in one of the large fir districts of the Pacific Northwest.

Hines, who arrived here from Burns, declined to announce what sites were under consideration for the fir mill, but indicated Oregon would be preferred.

"With depletion of pine stands in the south and middle west where we have operated," Hines said, "we must look to the Pacific Northwest for supply."

Member of Farm
Board Speaks At
Grange Session

SEATTLE, Nov. 20 (AP)—A plea for support for the federal farm board was addressed to members of the National Grange today by Charles S. Wilson of the board, who said they could be of great assistance by doing all possible to encourage the co-operative marketing movement.

"We believe that the farm organizations, and particularly the service to agriculture, can be of great assistance," Wilson said, suggesting that the local, county and state granges give support and guidance to the co-operative associations within their territory. He also suggested that the local granges devote much time to a study of the farmer's marketing problems.

In addition, Wilson discussed in a general way the policies of the farm board and told of what had already been done to assist the grain, wool, mohair, livestock and other groups of co-operative associations to organize the national commodity marketing agencies.

Native Unrest In
Africa Is Serious

PRETORIA, South Africa, Nov. 20 (AP)—Widespread and serious native unrest, fanned by numerous organizations in many cases closely in touch with the Communist Third International, faces the government of South Africa, Oswald Pirow, minister of justice, said at a meeting here.

It was a significant fact, he said, that native unrest was not confined to the Union of South Africa but was beginning to extend into Southern Rhodesia.

QUAKE ROCKS SHIP

NEW YORK, Nov. 20 (AP)—The earthquake which was felt along the coast from New York to Hulls Monday shook the liner Olympic, 640 miles out at sea, from stem to stern, her command reported today on arrival here from Southampton and Cherbourg.

Officers of the Olympic did not know what happened and for a time feared the ship had hit a submerged wreck and perhaps damaged her hull.

Young Man Annoys
Actress; Is Jailed

ALBANY, Ore., Nov. 20 (AP)—Arrested on complaint of Lois Wilson, motion picture actress, who told authorities he had annoyed and threatened her, Clifton Phelps, 21, Albany youth, was in jail today pending a police hearing.

Albany police were informed Phelps had written Miss Wilson many letters and had made one trip to Beverly Hills, Cal., to see Miss Wilson, Phelps, according to Wilson, mailed the movie star a large letter knife smeared with red paint which was accompanied by a note bearing the likeness of a skull and cross bones.

Bank Robber Is
Lynched by Mob
Of Angry Texans

"Santa Claus" Bandit
Hanged by Eastland
People After Wounding
Officer Monday.

EASTLAND, Tex., Nov. 20 (AP)—Deputy Sheriff Tom Jones, wounded by Marshall Ratliff, bank robber, who was lynched here last night, died in a hospital today.

Two years ago Ratliff, dressed as a Santa Claus, participated in a bank holdup in which two officers and one of his companions were killed. Monday, after feigning paralysis and winning the sympathy of his keepers, he attempted a jail break, shooting and seriously wounding Deputy Tom Jones, veteran posse officer.

Last night 200 men overpowered his jailer, entered Ratliff's cell, dragged him naked to a well-lit business street and lynched him. Ratliff was held in the Eastland jail pending a sanity hearing, asked for by his aged mother, who asserted her son had lost his mind while awaiting his execution in the death cell at the Huntsville state prison.

Discovery by the townspeople of Eastland, who still remembered the deaths of Chief of Police G. B. Bedford and Officer George Carmichael in the battle with the bandits at the nearby town of Cleco two years before, that Ratliff was pretending and hiding his time for a break, brought their anger to a climax.

All yesterday afternoon they gathered in little groups about the town and mulled about Jones' shooting, which physicians said probably would prove fatal. Last night a crowd in front of the jail swelled to nearly a thousand at 8:30 o'clock.

200 Overpower Jailer
At about 9 o'clock some 200 men slipped into a side door of the jail and asked for the man, Jailer Gilborn refused to give him up. Then they overpowered Gilborn, took his keys and got Ratliff.

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Development of
Crescent City
Harbor Sought

CRESCENT CITY, Cal., Nov. 20 (AP)—Transcripts of testimony presented at a hearing here looking toward development of this harbor by the government were being prepared today for submission to the commerce committee of the United States senate, whose action resulted in an economic survey of the large Southern Oregon and Northern California territory involved in its relation to the harbor.

Representatives of six companies, lumber, exporters and others testified before Major E. H. Stoper, district engineer of the army board, who presided at the hearing, and Lieutenant F. H. Butler. All told how development of this harbor would benefit them and the territory involved.

L. A. Levensander, head of the Northwest Mining department of the American Smelting and Refining company, pointed out that mine in the territory are paying a higher freight rate per ton than had than any other customers of their firm. He declared that in all cases transportation had been the chief drawback of mines tributary to Grants Pass, Ore., and this city.

Contracts will go to the lowest bidder, Mr. Brown said, and the construction of a total of forty new vessels, large and fast enough to compete with any on the sea, is planned by companies which have indicated an intention of substituting bids.

He revealed that new liners for the North Atlantic service estimated to cost approximately \$25,000,000 are planned, with vessels contemplated for other routes which will be the last word in modern marine architecture and engineering.

It was pointed out that the prospective marine construction should mean much to many branches of American commerce, through the variety and extensiveness of the articles which go into the making of a modern ocean liner. Less in-

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NIGHT VIGILS
AT GRAVE ARE
TO BE HALTED

MALDEN, Mass., Nov. 20 (AP)—All night vigils at the grave of the Rev. Patrick J. Powers, scene of the pilgrimages of thousands of people seeking aid for their afflictions, will be stopped Monday. Officials of the Holy Cross cemetery today announce daytime visiting hours only beginning next Monday.

Tens of thousands of people, crippled, blind and diseased, have journeyed to the grave in the last three weeks on reports of miraculous healing there. Last Sunday 200,000 came and on two previous occasions thousands of pilgrims.

Cemetery authorities also said they were considering plans of allowing four days of each week for visits by the afflicted, with the general public admitted the other three days. The daytime visiting hours, announced will be between 7 a. m. and 5 p. m., a half hour before closing time the chapel bell will ring a warning to visitors.

A crowd of 55,000 came to the grave yesterday. Edward Cantan, 35, of New York City, a World war aviator who companions said shot down three German planes before he crashed himself over Ventura and suffered a paralyzed left side, prayed for relief for himself and other wounded veterans.

Mrs. Curtis Guild, widow of a former governor of Massachusetts, knelt with her sick sister, Mrs. Lavalley, and Mrs. Lavalley, several cures were claimed during the day.

Hit-Run Motorist
Kills Oregon Man

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 20 (AP)—J. L. Nichols, 57, Portland, 614 in a hospital here today after he had been struck by two automobiles, one driven by a hit and run motorist and the other by L. R. Brown, whose car struck Nichols while he was resting across the pavement suffering injuries received from the first crash. Police promised a strict investigation.

Five Men Injured
In Frisco Blaze

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20 (AP)—Five men, including Fire Chief Charles J. Brennan, were injured in a fire which destroyed the plants of the American Engraving and Coloplate company and the Gray and Danielson distilleries here last night.

Twelve men were known to have been in the three-story building, and all were believed to have escaped. A search of the ruins was ordered, however, when firemen told that two men who had been trapped on the top floor, plunged into the fire below.