

ORDER U. P. TO BUILD NEW ROAD

1929 SCHOOL POPULATION SHOWS GAIN

Five Per Cent More Children of School Age in City This Year.

COUNTY TOTAL IS LESS THAN 1928

Wallowa County Shows a Loss in Population, Distributed in Both Towns and Valley.

The greatest gain in school population in La Grande since 1925 was registered this year, according to the fall census for this district.

Taking of the census has been under way for several weeks and according to figures available, the total for La Grande this year exceeded that of 1928 by 141 young people between the ages of four and 20 an increase of five per cent.

Another unusual thing in connection with the census for 1929 is that it shows La Grande to have 59 more boys of school age than girls. Last year the girls outnumbered the boys by an even dozen, so the male gain in the 12 months amounts to considerable.

In 1927 there were only two more girls than boys, which is about as close as the figures usually get.

The total for the La Grande school population this year is 2,879, exactly 21 short of 3,000. In comparison, La Grande had only 2,838 persons of school age in 1928.

Additional educational opportunities here, including the E. O. N. school, are believed responsible for the increase.

Figures for other years and the gain over the preceding year follow:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Population, Gain. Rows for 1928, 1927, 1926, 1925, 1924.

From the figures above, it is shown that La Grande's school population increased 625 in five years, or a gain of nearly 27 per cent.

County Total Smaller

Although the city school population shows a distinct increase, this year, the total for the county is smaller than last year.

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LESS RAIN IN CITY THAN IN OTHER POINTS

Although La Grande continues to receive rain, the city is not getting its share of Oregon's moisture this month. Since the rain started a few days ago, a total of .89 of an inch has been measured, the heaviest precipitation coming Sunday, when two inches of snow fell, melting into .45 of an inch of water.

Portland had as much rain in two days as had been experienced during the preceding five months. Pendleton, with 1.34 inches of rain this month, also surpassed the five-month mark. La Grande hasn't even reached the halfway mark yet.

However, with 2.69 inches of rain during July, August, September, October and November, La Grande takes the lead, inasmuch as this is nearly an inch more than Pendleton received, and is practically even with Portland's precipitation, which amounted to around 2.25 inches.

The heaviest rain in the five months preceding December came one day in October, when .56 of an inch fell. One day during August and another day during November, an even .49 of an inch was measured here. July was the driest month of the five with rain falling only one day, totaling .05 of an inch.

Although La Grande received over two inches of rain during the five months, the warm weather and the fact that the rains were occasional, resulted in little benefit from the precipitation. The present rainy season is resulting in soaking the ground to a fair depth.

WEATHER TODAY 7:30 a. m., 52 above. Minimum, 39 above. Condition: Partly cloudy.

Weather Yesterday Maximum, 54; minimum, 39 above. Condition: Cloudy, rain .13 of inch.

Weather Dec. 12, 1928 Maximum, 55; minimum, 39 above. Condition: Cloudy, traces of snow.

Band Hopes To Make Concert Best of Season

Extra Rehearsal Will Be Held This Evening in Preparation for Monday Night Program.

The municipal band is holding an extra rehearsal this evening in preparation for the concert to be given at the normal school Monday evening, Dec. 16. Nothing is being left undone to make this concert one of the best of the winter series, according to Director Andy Loney Jr.

Of particular interest to music lovers will be the rendition of the "Bohemian Girl" by Balle with its well known songs "I Dreamt I Dwelt in Marble Halls," "Then You'll Remember Me," "The Heart Bowed Down" and others. These solos will be played by Elmer McManus, solo cornetist of the band, and Guy McMillan, baritoneist. Several difficult cadenzas will be played by Roy Mattoon, solo clarinetist.

Mrs. H. N. Ashby, vocal soloist for this concert, has chosen for her numbers: "Over the Steppes" by Gieschinnoff and "Rain, Rain, Rain" by Gay. Mrs. Ashby is the possessor of a delightful soprano voice and will be accompanied by Mrs. Harley Richardson.

As in the past, the most delightful part of the municipal band programs may prove to be the encores. As much care is given the choosing and rehearsing of the encores as is given the heavy standard works. They are always of the lighter variety and consist mostly of pleasingly arranged popular numbers and novelties.

The program will close with the "Procession of the Sardar" from Ippolitow-Iwanow's "Caucasian Sketches."

The concert will start promptly at 8 o'clock and the full program will be given Monday.

No Shortage Of Power In Union, Baker Counties

Going through the worst drought in many years without curtailment of service, the Eastern Oregon Light and Power Co. has been free of a handicap in the way of power shortage such as has been suffered in many communities.

Interviewed on the subject of surplus power, J. P. Lottridge, vice president and general manager, said that the company has had adequate reserve throughout the dry period. Five or six years ago during a dry season, the local company was handicapped and in succeeding years had developed additional facilities to eliminate any power shortage in the future.

In addition to several hydro-electric plants and a steam standby plant in Baker, the company has a high line connection with the Idaho Power company that provides more surplus current than the territory can consume.

While many communities, notably the Puget Sound cities, have been suffering from power curtailment because of the drought, Union and Baker counties have continued all operations dependent on electricity without difficulty. It is the purpose of the company to continue this favorable condition at all times, Mr. Lottridge says.

Volley Ball Team Wins From Imbler

By winning three games out of five, the La Grande volleyball team defeated the Imbler team last evening in the La Grande hotel.

One unusual point was noted when the ball hit a La Grande player's head by accident, and rebounded into the opposite court, scoring a point for his side.

Members of the La Grande team, were P. L. Meyers, Paul Meyers, H. E. Dixon, T. K. Bellamy, J. H. Pearce, and Elmo Stevenson.

Re-Elect Perkins As State Director

W. C. Perkins was re-elected director of the Oregon State Motor association for district No. 8 yesterday at a meeting in the La Grande hotel. Mr. Perkins will serve for a term of two years.

Mrs. Dunbar Here For Health Meet

Mrs. Sallie Orr Dunbar, state welfare worker, is in La Grande this morning conferring with a committee of the Union County Health association in their annual session today.

Mrs. Dunbar was in Wallowa county yesterday for their annual meeting, and later today she will speak in North Powder for an assemblage of parents and teachers.

SPEED QUEEN



Amelia Earhart has added to her other aviation fame by breaking the world's record for women. Over Los Angeles she averaged 184.17 miles per hour over a measured course.

GUN CLUB WILL START WORK SOON

New Clubhouse, New Traps, New Road to Be Built After Sunday.

Plans have been completed for the improvements to be made by the La Grande Gun club on its Lone Tree grounds, and it was announced today that the work will be started following the turkey and merchandise shoot next Sunday, with hopes of completing the project in February in time for the starting of the annual telegraphic trapshoot.

The plans provide for a clubhouse 20 by 48 feet, with a store-room and kitchen in addition to the large main room, which will have a big fireplace. The front of the clubhouse will face the traps and a feature will be a long line of windows through which spectators may watch the shooters in disagreeable weather.

Two regulation traps will be put in, with concrete stands for the shooters, and a new road will be built along the west line of the fence, connecting at an angle with the Old Oregon Trail highway.

The turkey and merchandise shoot will begin at 9:30 o'clock Sunday morning, and will be the last of the year. A large attendance is expected and all members are urged to get their 1929 cards at this time. Officials of the club report 39 new members, which already makes the personnel of the organization over 100 for the coming year.

Colon E. Eberhard was tonmaster at the clam feed held at the conclusion of the evening.

18 Initiated Into Local Elks Lodge

A class of 18 was taken into membership in the La Grande E. P. O. Elks lodge last night during initiatory exercises. The Rev. M. G. Tompkins, speaking for the class, gave a very interesting and appropriate talk.

Approximately 150 Elks were present for the evening, a feature of which was a dance by Gus Burg, of Pendleton, with accompaniment by the Star Novelty orchestra, which was very well received.

Colon E. Eberhard was tonmaster at the clam feed held at the conclusion of the evening.

Harry G. Avery To Resume Duties As County Agent Here First of Year

According to word received by friends in the county, County Agent Harry G. Avery, who has been absent for the past year, is leaving that valley on the 22nd of this month for their home in this county, to again take up their permanent residence. Mr. Avery has been using the substantial year, allowed such officials, taking work at the state college looking toward the completion of his college course and the securing of his degree. Mrs. Avery has also taken some work at the college.

Mr. Lawrence who has been acting county agent during the absence of Mr. Avery does not know yet as to his definite location after his release from the local office. There are two positions being con-

TAX LEVY IN CITY IS SET AT 22 MILLS

County Levy Is 16.31, Making Total for the Two of 38.31.

NO ANNOUNCEMENT ON SCHOOL, STATE

Slight Increase in County Equals .67 and in City .30, According to Figures Compiled.

Taxpayers in the city of La Grande will pay in 1930 on a total levy of 38.31 for county and city taxes, it was learned today with announcement from the county assessor's office that the city tax levy had been set at 22 mills. The county levy of 16.31 was determined by the county court.

The tax levies for school districts and for the state taxes, which will make up the balance, have not yet been made. In La Grande, the school levy cannot be determined until after final approval of the budget, it is said.

The total county-city levy represents an increase in millage of .97, divided as follows: county .67, city .30.

The city must raise \$122,705.75 from taxes in 1930 compared with \$119,832.50 for 1929. The county is to raise \$371,838.00.

The levies are based on a total county valuation of \$4,251,636. (Continued on Page Five)

Seal Sale Fund Now At \$640.93 For County, City

The Christmas seal sale in Union county, conducted for the benefit of the Tuberculosis association, is progressing in an encouraging fashion, according to reports today.

A check by Mrs. Ward Fowler, treasurer, reveals that so far \$640.93 has been raised, with the drive to continue during this month.

Second Staging Of Normal Play Thursday Night

The second staging of George Bernard Shaw's play, "Arms and the Man" was given in the E. O. N. school auditorium last night with a large crowd in attendance, nearly as large as on the opening night. The drama, which was very well presented both evenings, was given by Sock and Baskin, the dramatic club of the school.

This was the first presentation of a play by the Normal school and those who witnessed it are loud in their praise of the entertainment and the fine manner in which it was presented.

Degree Team Will Attend Lodge Meet

The state banner degree team, from the Pendleton I. O. O. F. lodge will attend the meeting of the local lodge this evening and exemplify the first degree. Places for 200 are being prepared by the committee in charge. Organizations in Baker and Union counties and all visiting Odd Fellows are invited to attend. The features of the menu are oyster stew and coffee.

Last evening about 50 members of the Odd Fellows and Rebekah lodges of La Grande enjoyed a meeting at Sumnerville held in the Masonic temple there, with about 250 in attendance. A play, a scene from a district school and refreshments preceded several hours of dancing.

McEwan Refuses To Comment on Rumor

NEW YORK, Dec. 13 (AP) — Captain John J. McEwan, University of Oregon coach, who resigned as head football coach to take effect at the end of the 1929 season, refused to comment himself today on the query regarding whether faculty members had told him it would be unnecessary for him to report next year.

Mannix Case Is Under Way Now In Salem Court

Joseph, Defendant in the Trial Which Ended Yesterday, Now Becomes the Accuser.

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 13 (AP) — Thomas Mannix' connection with the series of court cases involving the E. Henry Wemme endowment fund will produce a greater amount of evidence than is required by law for the disbarment of an attorney, Arthur K. McMahan, one of the Mannix prosecutors, told the referees today in his opening statement as the Mannix disbarment case went to trial. The case against Mannix was started by George Joseph, also a Portland attorney. Trial of Mannix' disbarment action against Joseph was concluded late Thursday.

McMahan, Arthur Clark and Evan Reames are the prosecutors in the Mannix case. McMahan said the evidence against Mannix would be in three divisions, the first involving the Wemme cases, the second worthless checks alleged to have been issued by the defendant, and the third his alleged claim to having improper influence with members of the supreme court.

Intimations by Presiding Referee Skipworth at the conclusion of the Joseph case, which ended at 4 o'clock, were that it will be some weeks before the recommendations of the referees are prepared for presentation to the supreme court. The reason for this is that the exhibits will have to be forwarded from one referee to another until all three have read them, while the great amount of testimony must also be transcribed and studied. The defense was given 19 days in which to file a brief, and the state five days in which to answer it.

Rabbit Whiskey Makes 'Em Leap and Run

CHICAGO, Dec. 13 (AP) — Squirrel whiskey is sufficiently well known in the bootleg trade to be written without quotation marks, but "rabbit" whiskey is something new.

Jack Thomas, charged with selling it, explained the difference to Judge Herbert V. Immenhausen yesterday. Squirrel whiskey, said Thomas, was so named because it created a desire to climb trees, poles and such. "Rabbit" whiskey, the brand he was blamed for selling, induces the drinker with an overpowering urge to leap and run.

Officers who had arrested Paul Wilke for drinking the stuff said sure enough, that was the way it affected Wilke. He hopped and ran hither and thither, and the policemen had a difficult time catching him.

Judge Immenhausen fined Wilke \$25 for acting like a rabbit and Thomas \$100 for helping him get that way.

McEwan Refuses To Comment on Rumor

NEW YORK, Dec. 13 (AP) — Captain John J. McEwan, University of Oregon coach, who resigned as head football coach to take effect at the end of the 1929 season, refused to comment himself today on the query regarding whether faculty members had told him it would be unnecessary for him to report next year.

"I do not know how to answer that question and would rather not commit myself," McEwan said. "It might be misconstrued by others."

Traffic Resumed Over Railroad

THE DALLES, Ore., Dec. 13 (AP) — Traffic was resumed over the S. P. & S. tracks between here and Grand Dalles today after an eastbound passenger train struck a huge boulder on the track yesterday resulting in injuries to three trainmen and a severe shaking for 25 passengers.

J. H. Summers and J. A. McLean, of Portland, and Bob Skar, Vancouver, Wash., fireman, suffered injuries. After striking the boulder the engine careened from 300 to 400 feet before toppling on its side in the ditch. The tender was left standing across the track and the mail car slid 75 feet down the embankment to the river's edge. The baggage car was tipped over by the rails.

EARLY SETTLER DIES

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 13 (AP) — Dewitt H. Jones, 82, one of the first students at Willamette university and who crossed the plains twice to come to Oregon, died yesterday at his Portland home.

RAIN STORMS MOVING INTO COAST AREAS

Transportation Is Already Handicapped by Floods In the Southwest.

AIR MAIL PLANES HALTED AT RENO

Shasta County Gets Nearly 12 Inches of Rain in 24 Hours; Other Points Affected.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13 (AP) — Meteorological disturbance moving eastward from the ocean to the Pacific coast and Northern California where the drought-ending storm exerts its first tribulation in damage to railroads, interrupted air mail schedules and impeded highway travel.

Occasional rains were predicted by the weather bureau for Washington, Oregon, Nevada, Utah and Northern California as far south as the San Joaquin valley for the next 36 hours. Southern California, which received a light sprinkling yesterday, was not included in the forecast for rain.

Rains continued throughout the night in Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho where precipitation for the 24-hour period ending at midnight ranged from a fraction of an inch to more than three inches. Snow in North Idaho damaged telephone wires and drifts impeded highway travel. Western Montana also reported a heavy fall of snow.

Freeze Hits Tacoma Rain forecast for the Tacoma

(Continued on Page Five)

WOMEN IN FAVOR OF SHORT SKIRTS

Americans Refuse to Be Dictated to by 'Meal-ticket' Frenchmen.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13 (AP) — Foreign entanglements in the form of the long skirts decreed by Paris style dictators have been denounced by New York club women.

After hearing the skirt debated at length yesterday at a meeting sponsored by the New York State Federation of Club Women, the 600 delegates indicated by applause their approval of a statement that "American women cannot be dictated to by a small coterie of meal ticket seeking Frenchmen in Paris."

Six models, three dressed in the short skirts of last year and three in the new longer style, were called to the platform. The short skirts won a popularity vote from the audience.

Gertrude Lawrence, English actress, wearing a skirt 12 inches from (Continued on Page Five)

AT 40 PER—OFF HIS FEET



Johnny Padur, 13, Tacoma golf caddy, won't sleep on his back for several months. For his was the unique—but none the less painful—experience of sliding, seated, at 40 miles an hour along a gravelled road. He caught his foot in a rope behind a speeding auto, and was dragged a mile before the driver noticed the lad's predicament.

Al Smith Visits Navy Department; Mob Cheers Him

Former Governor of New York Confers With Secretary Adams on Mooring Mast Question.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 (AP) — Amid scenes reminiscent of his political campaign last year, former Governor Alfred E. Smith of New York arrived at the navy department this morning to discuss with Secretary Adams the feasibility of placing a dirigible mooring mast on the 55 story building which his company is constructing in New York City.

Virtually the entire personnel of the navy department lined the corridors of the huge building and gave the former Democratic presidential candidate a tremendous ovation.

"Al" smiling as usual, and accompanied by several guards, literally had to fight his way up the steps to the secretary's office. Hundreds mostly women, crowded about him endeavoring to shake his hands.

McMaster Plan Would Cut Rate On Grain, Cattle

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 (AP) — Application of \$350,000,000 from the treasury to a reduction in the freight rates on grain and cattle was proposed as a substitute for the \$100,000,000 tax reduction resolution in the senate today by Senator McMaster, Republican, South Dakota.

The South Dakotan said the object of the tax resolution was to "lend aid and comfort to business," but he contended his own proposal would do more to stimulate business and the purchasing power of the people generally.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 (AP) — After once taking up the \$100,000,000 tax resolution today, the senate later was forced to make a record decision between consideration of the tax cut and the tariff bill and voted overwhelmingly to go ahead with taxes.

Two Killed When Motorcycle Goes Off Bend Road

BEND, Ore., Dec. 13 (AP) — The bodies of Roy L. Sims, 30, and A. W. Dunn, 30, both of Klamath Falls, were returned to the Southern Oregon City today after a motorcycle accident near Metolus yesterday in which both were killed when the machine skidded on the Dalles-California highway and crashed into a ditch.

R. M. Hollingshead, truck driver, found the two men unconscious beneath the motorcycle. The truck driver placed them in the truck, but Dunn died before reaching Madras and Sims died in a hospital here.

Both suffered fractured skulls and internal injuries. (Continued on Page Four)

DOHENY TRIAL TO BEGIN ON MARCH TENTH

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 (AP) — The date for the trial of Edward L. Doheny, oil magnate, on a charge of bribery was set for March 10 today by Justice Hitz in the District of Columbia supreme court.

Doheny's attorney, Frank Hogan, had asked that the trial begin on March 17 and government attorneys requested January 13 as the date.

The indictment against the wealthy oil man is one of the series growing out of oil leases made during the Harding administration and the charge is that Doheny gave Albert B. Fall, former secretary of the Interior a bribe of \$100,000 in connection with the lease to Doheny's company of the Elk Hills naval oil reserve in California.

Fall was recently convicted on the charge of receiving the \$100,000 from Doheny and was fined \$100,000 and given a suspended sentence of a year in jail.

I. C. C. ACTS ON CENTRAL OREGON PLEA

Proposed 181-Mile Line Would Connect Crane and Crescent Lake.

RAILROAD WILL FIGHT DECISION

Union Pacific to Test the Power of Interstate Commerce Commission in Courts, Belief.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 (AP) — The interstate commerce commission today for the first time asserted its power to compel a railroad to build, against its will, extensive new lines, when it directed the Union Pacific system to construct 181 miles of line between Crane and Crescent Lake, Oregon, at an approximate cost of \$9,000,000.

Because of the principle involved, the proceedings drew in all the railroads of the Pacific northwest and in handing down the verdict the commission also ruled that it had the power to compel the railroad to undertake the work. The Oregon-Washington Railroad and Navigation company, a subsidiary of the Union Pacific, was directed to begin the actual construction.

The complaint brought by the Oregon public service commission said the central portion of the state had not been provided with the proper rail facilities and that the line from Crane to Crescent Lake was badly needed. In the opinion, the commission said the complaint was justified.

Two Members Dissent Two commissioners, Brainerd and Farrell, dissented expressing the opinion that the commission was "without authority" to compel railroads to undertake extensive construction against their will.

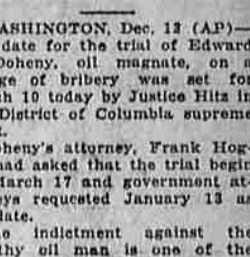
Commissioner Porter also dissented but he held the commission had the power to direct the construction but that the use of it in the case under consideration was not justified. Commissioner Woodlock dissented without comment.

It is considered certain that the commission's decision ordering the Union Pacific to construct the new route will be taken into account in view of the opposition the Union Pacific has evinced to undertaking the work.

Crossed Central Oregon The line would run from east to west across the center of Oregon and would link up transportation lines which now operate chiefly on the east and west borders of Oregon. The commission remarked that a line "across Central Oregon has long been a desire of people of that state," while the area to be traversed is said "probably to constitute the largest area within the United States without rail facilities."

Several railroad arguments questioning the right of the commission to order a common carrier to extend its line were reviewed, and the majority decision, in spite of statements of dissenting members, specifically stated that under exist-

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