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LA GRANDE, OREGON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1929

MEMBER A. B. C.

NUMBER 105

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER

Oregon: Unsettled tonight and Friday probably with rain in the northwest portion; colder in the southwest portion tonight.

STATE WILL
BUILD ROAD;
CITY TO PAY

Old Oregon Trail West of Adams Avenue to be Improved in 1930.

PETITION FOR AN
ELECTION CHECKED

342 Signers are Eligible but 49 Names Stricken From List—Petition is Tabled.

Definite decision was made last night by the city commission to enter into an agreement with the state highway commission whereby the section of the Old Oregon Trail highway from Adams avenue to the west city limits of La Grande would be improved, specifications to be the same as employed in improving the highway outside of the city limits.

City Manager W. C. Crews, who was ill and could not attend last night's meeting, was given authority to enter into an agreement with the state highway commission whereby the section of the Old Oregon Trail highway from Adams avenue to the west city limits of La Grande would be improved, specifications to be the same as employed in improving the highway outside of the city limits.

The annexation petition, filed a week ago by the chamber of commerce, was returned to the commission last night after being checked by the county clerk. Three hundred forty-two names were legal and 49 were held ineligible to sign. Whether this 342 is sufficient to call an election is unknown. The city filed the report and petition for later consideration.

City Attorney George T. Cochran reported on negotiations for the transfer of two lots from Mr. Mount to the city, leading up to the purchase by the city of two lots in its Condonville park from private owners. The transfer is in line with an early agreement and Mr. Cochran was given authority to proceed.

ISLAND CITY GIVES \$100
WALZ ATTENDS
MEETING HELD
IN PORTLAND

The Rev. J. George Walz, of the Presbyterian church, attended the meeting of the synodical committee on program and field activities at the Presbyterian headquarters in Portland, Tuesday of this week. The work of this committee is to apportion the \$55,557.00 quota for benevolences, assigned to the churches of the state of Oregon, by the General Assembly's council, for the year 1930-31. To this amount was added an additional \$5000.00 for special objectives of the synod. A third of the Presbyterian churches are on the list of frontiers in the labyrinthine, on the deserts, on the mountains—and their money goes to give these points equipment, workers and life. The missionary activities touch the Cherokees, Pimas, Mexicans, Dakotas, Sioux, Chinese, Assyrians, Eskimos, Choctaws, Koreans, Filipinos, and many other races, all good and loyal citizens of these marvelous United States.

The general promotional program of the board of national missions was considered. Dr. Murdoch McLeod, of San Francisco, Pacific coast zone director, was present. Mr. Walz, secretary of the committee, reports that during the months of January and February each church in the zone will be visited by some representative of the board of national missions.

Sidewalk Snow
Plow At Work
In City Today

Snow Piles up in Eastern Oregon—Motorists Urged to Use Chains on Oregon Trail.

The city's sidewalk snow-plow equipment went to work in earnest this morning, clearing the three-inch blanket from the Fourth street sidewalk before 7 o'clock this morning. The plow, purchased during the fall, will be used during snowy weather, cleaning off the main sidewalks first and then moving onto the less traveled arteries.

The three inches of snow measured this morning was packed down, containing .36 of an inch of moisture. During the night, before it settled, the fall was four or five inches deep in the residential districts. Before 7:30 o'clock this morning the mercury climbed above the freezing point, and the milder weather was helping workers to erase the white covering.

The snow is general over the state with the exception of a portion of Western Oregon, where heavy rain is reported.

Reports received from Meacham by the state highway offices here are that the snow is about a foot deep and that it is still snowing.

Highway Flooded
The Oregon State Motor association announced today in Portland that the Pacific highway, both north and south of Eugene, was

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Schools Are To
Have Christmas
Trees, Programs

All of the schools in La Grande have planned programs, Christmas trees and parties for the last two days of school. The rooms of the various schools are decorated in a holiday scheme, with colors of green and red.

Many of the teachers are planning to co-operate with other teachers to combine their programs. Plans for exchanging gifts by the children are to be carried out and the last day of school this year promises to be a gay one.

The central grade school will finish the last day of this year's work quite fittingly by having an assembly at one o'clock Friday afternoon. The assembly will sing "Holy Night." The eighth grade has prepared a play, "Santa's Shop," with the characters: Santa Claus, Fred Weatherpoon; Santa's helpers, Ralph Plober, Agnes Hansen, Jack Singlet; the dolls, Mildred Kewler, a French doll, Marie Montegomery and Lucille Thompson, Hagedy Ann dolls, and Winifred Scott, a Dinah doll. Edward Butcher is to be a tin soldier and Ronald Bates is a clown doll. Leola Wilcox is the Spirit of Christmas. Some of the pupils from Miss Kincaid's room are to be the voices of children.

The seventh and eighth grades will sing two Christmas carols, "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" and "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear."

Leaves For Boise, But Not In Time

BAKER, Ore., Dec. 19 (Special)—Eugene Klein left for Boise last night about 12 o'clock but he didn't get very far. Misfortune in the form of an officer overtook him as he stepped from the rear door of his residence.

Sheriff Henry McKinney and another man went to Klein's house in South Baker about midnight to arrest Klein on a charge of stealing a harness from John Kline in Medical Springs. The sheriff's companion stepped to the rear door and McKinney called at the front door. The lights in the house flashed on. The sheriff was informed that Klein "is not here. He's gone to Boise." As Klein stepped from the rear door on his way to Boise he was halted by the sheriff's assistant.

Klein is accused of selling the harness in La Grande. He will be turned over to Union county authorities.

Today Kline is being held in the Union county jail in La Grande.

Spanish War Vets To Elect Officers

Election of officers for 1930 will be the main order of business at the meeting of the James E. Page camp, United Spanish war veterans, Dec. 25, in the K. of P. hall. The meeting was set for Saturday evening due to the fact that the regular meeting night falls on Christmas.

Visiting legionnaires will be present and a large attendance is expected.

EAGLE'S NEST



It's in a five-room apartment in the building pictured here, in New York, that the Lindberghs are going to house-keeping. The famed aviator and his bride will have a large living room with a log-burning fireplace, a foyer, two bedrooms and a bath, and a small combination kitchenette-dinette. Their annual rental, it was reported, will be \$3,200.

VELTEX COMPANY
WILL BUILD HERE

Warehouse to be Erected on Jefferson—to Install 24,000-Gallon Tank.

The Veltex Oil company, distributed by Harris and Shale, distributors, are to be moved from Island City to La Grande. It was announced today. The contractor, Will Blanchard, was to begin work yesterday but snow prevented. A 24,000-gallon tank is to be erected on Jefferson avenue, next to the Shell Oil Co. as quickly as weather permits, and will probably be completed in the spring.

The warehouse at Island City was burned recently and the company decided to build a smaller storage building in La Grande. At present the Erickson and Durland warehouse is being used for storage but this is a temporary arrangement.

A 24,000-gallon tank, of the latest type, is to be erected here, and is due to arrive about Christmas or the day after. The two 12,000-gallon tanks at Island City may either be erected here or moved to Idaho, this decision to be made later.

The O-W company, in connection with the building of Veltex headquarters here, is to install a spur leading to the tank.

It is estimated that the warehouse will cost approximately \$850 to build.

M'CLURG CASE
IN HANDS OF
IDAHO JUDGE

EMMETT, Ida., Dec. 19 (AP)—The case of John C. McClurg, charged with the murder of his bride, who was killed in the burning of their automobile near here last week, was taken under advisement by Probate Judge W. T. Crouch at the conclusion of his preliminary hearing here today.

McClurg is a former resident of Grants Pass, Ore.

The McClurgs were married in Yakima, Wash., two months ago. Evidence at today's session of the hearing, which started yesterday consisted of the testimony of a physician as to the condition of the woman's body when it was found huddled on the running board of the burned automobile which left the highway at the top of a hill and plunged down the grade. The defendant did not testify at the preliminary hearing.

At the coroner's inquest he said he jumped from the machine after he lost control and then crawled and walked two miles for help. The state contends McClurg killed his wife with the hope of collecting a \$10,000 double indemnity life insurance policy she had applied for shortly before her death.

Elect Officers
For Coming Year

Election and installation of officers was held by the Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, Union No. 781 at its regular meeting here Tuesday night.

W. B. Price was elected president. V. A. Carriean vice president. Other officers are as follows: financial secretary and treasurer, H. T. Edwards; trustees, Claude Lynch, W. C. Frisberg and Clyde Leighton; conductor, Clyde Leighton; warden, Joe Miller.

Following the business session a banquet was served to the members.

CONDITIONS
IN SHOSHONE
JAIL BARED

Miner Tells of Sheriff Permitting Prisoners to "Beat Him up."

PUNISHMENT FOR
INFORMING AGENTS

William Barrens and 27 Others, Including City Officials, Charged With Conspiracy.

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho, Dec. 19 (AP)—William Barrens, miner, testified today in the "Mullan rum conspiracy trial" that Sheriff R. E. Weniger of Shoshone county, allowed him to be beaten up in jail because he aided federal dry agents at Mullan.

Barrens said he bought liquor from several "joints" at Mullan, then told prohibition officers Sam Webb and Julius Johnson, who made several arrests. Their prisoners were placed in the county jail. Then, said Barrens, he was arrested on an assault charge and Weniger permitted the other prisoners to assault him for "squealing."

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65 High School
Girls Take Part
In Volley Ball

The game between the all-star volleyball teams of the high school is being looked forward to with much interest since the contest last Tuesday, when the seniors and sophomores played a game which was unusual for high school students. The seniors won 20 to 15 but it was not until the final whistle that the score could be counted as safe. Doris Cade has been refereeing the games and will officiate tonight. The line up follows:

Seniors: Naomi Tidwell, Nora Sitter, Margaret Milne, sophomores: Clara Coughenower, Joan Pidecock, and Virginia Bramwell, freshmen: Elva Tidwell, Dorothy Pidecock and Virginia Wiggleworth. The lineups for the second team: seniors, Anne Giethe and Louise Berry, and Virginia Glass juniors: Gladys Harvey and Ireta Conner, Sally Siegert, Alma Ingram and Elsie Giethe for sophomores and Vaughn Sabor, freshman.

The substitutes are Eleanor Dahl, junior, and Bonnie Sule, senior. The captains are Virginia Bramwell, first team and Virginia Glass, second team. Both girls are ill so Elva Tidwell will be captain for the first team and Leona Berry will be captain for the second team.

Nora Sitter is head coach. Her assistants are: Theresa Giethe, senior coach, Margaret Milne, junior coach, Nora Sitter, sophomore coach, and Jacqueline O'Brien, freshman coach.

Sixty-five girls have earned awards in volleyball this season. In the series the seniors won three games, lost none, the sophomores won two games and lost one, the freshmen won one game and lost two, and the juniors won no games and lost two. The standing of the second teams are: juniors won three, and lost none; seniors won two games and lost one, sophomores won one game and lost two, freshmen won no games and lost three.

91 Girls Out For
Basketball Games

At the first meeting of the basketball girls at high school this month there were 91 girls signed up. Twenty-seven freshmen, 34 sophomores, 17 juniors and 19 seniors reported. Practice for the teams will start Dec. 26. The head coach for basketball is Naomi Tidwell. Assistant coaches are: freshmen, Leona Berry and Joan Pidecock; sophomores, Nora Sitter and Elva Tidwell; juniors, Virginia Glass and Claudia Sogham; and seniors, Jacqueline O'Brien and Dorothy Higgins.

Eugene and Lane County Flooded;
Highways Under 3 Feet of Water

EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 19 (AP)—Eugene and Lane county were today experiencing the worst flood trouble in three years as the Willamette river touched the 14.5-foot mark, two and half feet over the danger mark. Heavy rains combined with melting snow in mountains wrought the damage.

Between Eugene and Springfield and between Eugene and Junction City the Pacific highway was three feet under water.

The west Springfield district was the hardest hit and property damage there will run into thousands of dollars. Farmers in low river bottoms will also suffer heavily from the washing out of soil and crops.

The Drain-Hoodspott highway was blocked by slides. The Mc-

Winter Weather
Grips Nation; 36
Below In Saco

Snow and Cold Extends Over United States—New Orleans is Introduced to White Flakes.

By The Associated Press
CHICAGO, Dec. 19 (AP)—Chicago's storm dead had reached a total of 20 today.

Ten died yesterday and ten more were victims of heart attacks, traffic accidents or were frozen to death in the bitter snowstorm. Two of the day's dead were killed by trains as they tramped along the right of way, bewildered by the swirling snow.

Old King Cold broadcast over a nationwide network today. It was the wind; wind that raced at express train speed across the prairies and lashed the lakes to fury. If the announcer seemed to speak sharply, crisply, it was the sub-zero, zero and near zero temperatures that reached from Canada to Dixie, and from the Rockies to New England. If the broadcast was tragic, it was the dozen or more deaths caused by ice, ice and low temperatures.

Winter became a magician who dipped his hand into Medicine Hat, where weather breeds, and drew forth nearly every kind calculated to cause discomfort, disorder and distress. Blinding blizzards, sweeping across the midwest ahead of a train of under-zero cold; snows coating the cities' streets with the traffic hazard of ice; sleet, snow and gales over much of the Dominion of Canada; and snow, even, in New Orleans which had not seen it for years.

Dixie Feels Cold
This felt cold especially for it came on the heels of unusually warm weather. Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia watched mercuries drop to the twenties. Only in the Atlantic coastal states of Virginia and the Carolinas was the temperature seasonal, ranging in the fifties.

Ontario, the eastern states and New England counted the cost of a crust of ice that leveled many miles of communication lines and scrambled transportation. New York and Boston among eastern cities escaped the wilderness from which most of the country suffered, but they wallowed in ice.

The southwest was so cold that the stockmen had a problem in providing shelter for their cattle. In Texas a hunter froze to death when pitched into an icy stream.

Sub-zero readings were so numerous that they had to be in the minus twenties to earn a place in the news. Saco, Me., cracked below zero. Williston, S. D., was only two degrees less frigid, and Devil's Lake in the same state was 32 degrees in the red.

Christmas trade over a wide area was seriously interrupted. In many

Fog So Thick In
London That
Hearse is Lost

LONDON, Dec. 19 (AP)—Fog has been so thick here that a funeral procession was lost. The hearse was separated from following automobiles. It was hours before they were reunited.

Two Aberdeen Tots
Burned to Death

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 19 (AP)—The two small children of Mr. and Mrs. George Foster were burned to death today when their farm home near Grand Mound on the Elma-Grand Mound highway was destroyed by fire.

Governor Ill Of
A Severe Cold

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 19 (AP)—Governor Patterson, who has been ill with a severe cold for several days, has been ordered by his physician to cancel all engagements and remain at his home for a week.

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HEALTH O. K.



His health restored and "ready to go to work again," Thomas A. Edison here is pictured, bundled with a heavy overcoat, a woolen muffler and mittens, just before he set out from Newark, N. J., on his annual pilgrimage to the south. At his winter home in Fort Meyers, Fla., the aged "wizard" is to resume his experiments in obtaining rubber from goldenrod.

STEAMSHIP SINKS
AT BAY ENTRANCE

250 Passengers of Fort Victoria Safe Ashore—Ships Collide in Fog.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19 (AP)—Rescued when their ship was rammed and sunk at the fog-ridden entrance of New York bay, 250 passengers of the Fort Victoria were safe ashore today, including the crew. 415 persons were saved without loss of life or injury.

The Fort Victoria was rammed head-on by the Clyde liner Algonquin at 4 p. m. yesterday as the Bermuda-bound ship stopped off at Algonquin lightship to drop her pilot. The Algonquin was outward bound for Miami and Galveston with 182 passengers.

The pilot boat Sandy Hook and New York, the first vessels to respond to the S O S signals of the two ships picked up the lifeboat of the Fort Victoria with her passengers and most of her crew of 165.

Captain A. R. Francis and 12 of his crew remained aboard the Fort Victoria until she sank at 7:30 p. m. They were rescued by one of the tugs which were trying to keep her afloat.

Of the passengers who lost all their baggage with the sinking of the ship, 144 were landed at Stapleton, Staten Island, by the pilot boat Sandy Hook and transferred by ferry to Manhattan.

The Algonquin, with her bows stove in, but not dangerously damaged, anchored near the scene of the collision to wait for the fog to thin before returning to her pier today. Her passengers remained aboard.

Despite the thick fog which had hung over the harbor all week the Fort Victoria left her pier on schedule at 11 a. m. with her fog siren sounding, she crept down the bay at reduced speed, feeling her way.

Most of the passengers were below decks when the engines were stopped just outside the lower bay to permit the pilot to go over the side. This was 12 miles from Manhattan.

Without warning the black bow of the Algonquin clove the fog and slashed through the plates of the Fort Victoria just forward of amidship, tearing a gaping hole in her port side.

The ship rapidly developed a list as water poured into her forward hold and flooded the fire and engine rooms, stopping the generators. An emergency dynamo was started to furnish power for the radio and a few lights.

Captain J. W. MacKenzie of the

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TWO ARRESTED
ON CHARGE OF
HORSE THEFT

BAKER, Ore., Dec. 19 (Special)—Clifford Stephenson and Ollie Jones, who are charged with stealing a large number of horses off the range in Rye Valley the first part of November, have been arrested in Portland, Sheriff Henry McKinney says. Deputy Sheriff Frank Littlefield and Lance Stout are expected in Baker with the pair today or Friday.

Sheriff McKinney became informed as to the whereabouts of Stephenson and Jones and notified Portland police, who made the arrest.

The two men are suspected of rounding up 25 or more head of horses in Rye Valley and driving them to Union, where, it is said, negotiations for their sale had been entered into when a Baker county officer came upon the scene.

Stephenson and Jones, who were located rather unexpectedly by the officer, jumped into their car and sped away toward La Grande. Authorities in La Grande were notified, but the pair escaped.

British Flight
To Africa Ends
In Fatal Crash

Two Royal Air Force Flyers Killed—Arab Discovers Wrecked Plane Late Wednesday.

TUNIS, Tunis, Dec. 19 (AP)—Attempts of two British royal air force flyers to fly 5,000 miles from England to the far southern tip of Africa ended in death on a North African mountain side 30 miles southeast of here.

An Arab reported yesterday afternoon he had seen wreckage of an airplane on a slope known as St. Marie D'Uit. Searching parties were sent out immediately but because of the wildness of the terrain did not locate the wreckage until nightfall.

It was identified easily as the Fairey-Napier monoplane in which Squadron Commander Jones-Williams and Flight Lieutenant A. H. Jenkins left Cranwell airbase at dawn Tuesday intending to make a non-stop flight to Capetown, South Africa. The late hour and bad weather prevented bringing bodies of the two flyers, which were located in the wreckage, to Tunis immediately, but a detachment of soldiers was left to guard them.

Lost Way in Darkness
While it was impossible until further investigation to determine exact circumstances of the fatal crash it was believed the two flyers had been buffeted severely by a storm which raged in this section of the Mediterranean Tuesday night. It was supposed they lost their way in the darkness, and dashed against the mountain side where they sought landing.

The French resident general, learning for certain the identity of the aviators, sent an official to convey his condolences to the British consul general, who informed the air ministry at London of the fatal termination of the flight.

Until reports of the airplane wreckage were received fear had increased steadily that the two flyers had met with mishap, since they had arranged to communicate every four hours with a land station. Nothing had been heard from them since they reported they were about 10 miles north of Sardinia.

Another Plane Lost
Search continues for another airplane, piloted by the Frenchmen, LaSalle, Rehard and Falot, which is missing in this vicinity. It

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Baker Project
Assured, Mead
Says in Letter

BAKER, Ore., Dec. 19 (Special)—A. Phillips, one of the land owners interested in the revived Baker project, has received a letter from Commissioner Mead of the federal reclamation service to the effect that congress has authorized appropriation for the work and that Mead is ready to proceed with construction of the storage reservoir as soon as title to the site can be acquired from the private owners.

Plans for a dam at Thiel valley to cost about \$200,000 have been drawn and only the acquisition of the land to be covered by the water remains as a prerequisite to beginning work. The dam will store about 17,000 acre-feet of water and will irrigate 7000 acres of land.

Purchase of the land depends upon an agreement as to price. Mr. Phillips said today. The government has made two appraisals, the second being for about \$12,000 less than the first.

If the needed land can be obtained construction will be started in the spring and the land will be getting water a year later. Construction costs will be about \$30 per acre, to be paid at the rate of a dollar an acre for 30 years without interest.

Dr. Snook May Be
Executed Tonight

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 19 (AP)—The state supreme court today continued the stay of execution of Dr. James H. Snook, convicted slayer of Theora Hix, until January 21.

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 19 (AP)—Warden P. E. Thomas of Ohio penitentiary said today that unless the state supreme court acts on the appeal of Dr. James H. Snook before midnight tonight he has authority to proceed with the professor's electrocution for the murder of his co-ed paramour, Theora Hix, last June 15.

Robinson Heads
North Conference

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 19 (AP)—C. A. Robinson of the College of Puget Sound was elected president of the Pacific northwest conference at the annual meeting here today which coaches and faculty attended. He succeeded W. B. Davis of Whitman college.

Paul Murphy of the college of Idaho was elected secretary-treasurer.

Although the coaches mapped out a tentative schedule for the conference, official action was delayed until late this afternoon.

DENIES TALK
WITH HOOVER
ABOUT SUGAR

E. P. Shattuck, Tariff Worker, Testifies Before Senate Committee.

CONVERSATIONS
WERE WITH AIDE

Regards Bandying of President's Name in Testimony as Very Unfair to Executive.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (AP)—Edwin P. Shattuck, lawyer friend of President Hoover, told the senate lobby committee today he had not discussed the tariff with the president.

"I have had no directions from Mr. Hoover about the sugar tariff," Shattuck said, "nor have I discussed it with the president. I have discussed the sugar tariff and the proposed scale with Mr. Newton (secretary to Hoover)."

Just a few moments before Senator William D. Borah, Democrat, Montana, had asked the witness if he had talked with the president before accepting a job offered by H. C. Lakin.

Recalls Earlier Conversation
"I told him I was employed by the Cuban sugar interests to try to work out some plan that would be fair to all," Shattuck answered. "Why did you tell him at all about your employment?" he was asked.

"I saw him as I usually do," Shattuck said. "I usually call on him when in the vicinity."

Shattuck said his friendship with Hoover had been "like any other friendship," adding that they had had a good deal of public work together and a large amount of charity work.

Senator Robinson, Republican, Indiana, asked why Shattuck was employed "chiefly" because of his friendship with Hoover.

"I make no claim to be the adviser of Mr. Hoover," he said. "I have in the past 19 years done professional work for Mr. Hoover. I resent the implication that I am Mr. Hoover's closest legal friend. I think it is unfortunate that any such implication should be recorded in the committee. My relations with Mr. Hoover have been very pleasant."

"I make no claim other than that I hope to have his friendship," he added.

Regards Talk as Unfair
"Do you think it's fair to have Mr. Hoover's name bandied about in this testimony?" Senator Robinson asked.

"I certainly do not," he said. "and I can't make it strong enough."

Shattuck said the "inferences" for some of the testimony about his relations with Hoover were "improper."

"Are any of the facts untrue?" Senator Blaine, Republican, Wisconsin, asked.

"I have not discussed the sugar tariff with Mr. Hoover. I have discussed it with Mr. Newton," Shattuck answered.

He said he had discussed the sliding scale proposal with Newton and had been asked by Newton to discuss it.

Shattuck was asked about a letter

BAKER MAN TO
DIE IN CHAIR
FOR SLAYING

ATHENS, Ohio, Dec. 19 (AP)—James Litteral, 42, Baker, Ore., was sentenced to die in the electric chair April 26, 1930, by Common Pleas Judge L. G. Worstell here today.

He was charged with first degree murder of Harry Green, Kim