

LA GRANDE TOTAL SURPASSES MANY

City One of Few in Oregon That Showed 1929 Gain in Building.

The position of the building industry in its promise of stable activity during 1930 was further strengthened by December's record of permits issued in the National Monthly Building Survey of S. W. Strauss & Co. Restriction of new construction adds to the stability of demand and December's total of new buildings permitted was 35 per cent below that of December, 1929.

Of the 195 Pacific coast cities reported December totals lower than those of December of last year and 61 report totals for the year of 1929 lower than those of 1928, of the larger cities, only show December increases: Salt Lake City, 117 per cent; Vancouver, B. C., 59 per cent; Seattle, 55 per cent; San Francisco, 6 per cent. Five report totals for the year greater than those of 1928: Vancouver, 28 per cent; Salt Lake City, 27 per cent; Pasadena, 17 per cent; Long Beach, 10 per cent; Tacoma, 2 per cent.

Although building activity during the first half of the year showed a slight increase over the com-

parable period of 1928, succeeding months, affected by the unprecedented popular interest in stock market operations, reflected a reduction. The third quarter of the year total building permits issued was 19 per cent less than that of 1928 and the fourth quarter total was 13 per cent less.

Around all parts of the Pacific coast, reports indicate a gradual strengthening of demand for new housing and floor space, the result of the restricted building program of the past two years, coincident with this comes news of many building projects being inaugurated or revived in anticipation of more ready financing than has been evident for many months.

La Grande's building total for 1929, which was \$249,922, represents an increase over the figure for 1928. It compares with other cities' building records for 1929 as follows:

City	1929	1928
Albany	\$ 209,655	\$ 201,705
Astoria	93,153	162,969
Baker	192,246	248,747
Eugene	571,722	1,276,489
Klam, Fla.	1,759,819	955,948
Marshall	165,465	119,205
Medford	659,779	529,917
Portland	15,492,816	21,275,970
Salem	2,942,792	1,602,443

Cities besides La Grande that showed 1929 gain:

Yearly building for other Northwest cities was as follows: Logan \$253,800; Povo \$243,800; Walla Walla \$282,741; Boise \$1,052,905; Idaho Falls \$469,335; Lewiston \$576,251; Nampa \$329,496.

Fruit Growers Fear Sub-Zero Wave At Cove

By Mrs. A. G. Conklin (Observer Correspondent)
COVE, Ore. (Special) — This week has been very quiet in Cove due to the extremely cold weather. The mercury registered 9 above. The daily warnings that there will be sub-zero weather were received with much concern, fearful of what such extreme cold would do to the fruit trees. Since the cold a few years ago damaged the fruit trees so seriously every orchardist fears for his trees.

The school is busy with mid-year examinations this week and the pupils are taking all the recreation offered by skating and playing basketball. There have been two interclass games this week, a game between the juniors and sophomores Monday afternoon and one between the seniors and freshmen Wednesday when the seniors won with a score of 17 to 7. A game is scheduled with Huber Friday Jan. 17 to be played at Huber.

The skating is good this week and every evening seen a crowd of young people enjoying it.

The Woman's club held its regular semi-monthly meeting at the library Thursday afternoon. This was the annual day when dues are paid. The federation dues are also due at this time and women voted to send a small amount to each of the federation's projects, scholarship fund, December hospital and the endowment fund.

Next Tuesday the club women will have an all day meeting at the home of Mrs. Harbich to sew for the Ladies home in Portland. Two visitors were present at the meeting, Mrs. John Collins and Mrs. Hogue. Mrs. Mills was chairman of the program "Oregon Products" and she brought her seventh grade class who furnished a very entertaining and instructive program. Lloyd Marchison gave a paper on lumber. Other topics were given as follows: "Apples and Peaches," Mildred Hogue; "Lumber," Robert Clark; "Lamb and Walrus," Ada Brecheers; "Linen, Bulbs and Candy," Maxine Towle; "Sheep and wool," Billie Neiger; "Imports and exports," Elbert Hestow; "dairying," Junior Van Dong; "Flour," Bessie Hogue. As flour is second in importance in Oregon, this paper should have appeared second on the program, but Bessie Hogue was ill so her teacher, Mrs. Mills read the paper at the close of the program. The young people had obtained much of their information from the Homemakers association and also the Portland chamber of commerce and their papers showed they had taken a great deal of interest in their subjects and were well prepared. The program was much enjoyed by all present.

Mrs. Thomas Towle and her small son, Clifford Dale, returned to their home here Thursday from the Wanderlark hospital in La Grande.

W. R. Hous who has lately been living in Walla Walla, Wash., but also has a home here, left a few days ago for Los Angeles where he will enter the White Memorial hospital for treatment. Mr. Hous has been ill for some time and the doctors have been of various opinions in regard to his sickness, but have finally decided that it is gas poisoning caused by inhaling gas. He has gone to this particular hospital because of Dr. Kellogg, who is a relative and he gives every assurance that a cure can be effected.

There is much sickness in Cove. Among those who are ill are Mrs. J. B. Brecheers, Mrs. Vera Bloom, Mrs. Oscar Gorham and many school children.

At a meeting of the city council Tuesday evening, L. R. Lay was given a license to operate an automobile repair shop and filling station in town between the barber shop and Smith's meat market and grocery.

K. J. Stackland left about a week ago for a business trip to Portland and will be away another week or ten days.

A hen in Wellington, Kan., went for a ride on the bumper of her owner's automobile. Usually the hens are in the back seat.

The University of Texas has been chosen the twenty-ninth member of the Association of American Universities.

ATTRACTIVE COTSWOLD COTTAGE



By Chester H. Dique

From beneath its blanket of snow the general mass and proportion of this quaint little cottage are quite evident. Although the chill of the evening atmosphere, augmented by the force of the wind, is easily imagined, the comfort of the occupants within can likewise be envisioned.

The exterior is almost entirely of face brick construction with cut stone trimmings and the roof, with solid steel eaves and a hand wrought hardware.

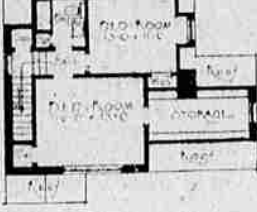
In addition to the usual vestibule and coat closet, an additional closet is located on the platform of the stairs making an ideal place for bridge tables, etc. The living room has a beamed ceiling and an old English tiled fireplace of sufficient size to permit the burning of logs.



The living room is admirably arranged for the placing of the various pieces of furniture in a most distinctive and comfortable manner. No comment seems necessary as to the convenient and practical layout of the kitchen, with its breakfast nook, rear entry, etc. The second floor plan is well arranged with ample storage capacity and attractive bathroom. The basement extends under the entire house, which is 36 feet wide overall.

Hardwood floors, rough plastering, bronze hardware, tiled bath, warm air furnace, etc., are a few of the items to be found in the specification.

The estimated cost of this house is between \$6000 and \$7500, exclusive of heating and plumbing.



being tolerated by the city and administration and law enforcement heads.

"We have no wish to foster libelous publications," said Colonel McCormick. "The general libel laws can be invoked against those if the charges are proven. Our fight is against allowing the truth to be suppressed, and newspapers ruled out of existence, by a single judge, without a jury trial."

The Minnesota law is said to be unique in the United States.

MICHIGAN "GAG" LAW IS APPEALED

Newspaper Publishers of America Takes Freedom Issues to High Court.

By Leo J. Ryan (AP Feature Service Writer)
CHICAGO, Jan. 12 (AP)—Freedom of speech and freedom of the press, for which Socrates fought 22 centuries ago and Milton three centuries ago, will be defended again before the supreme court of the United States.

The Newspaper Publishers of America, under the leadership of Colonel Robert C. McCormick, publisher of the Chicago Tribune, will ask the supreme court to nullify the Minnesota newspaper "gag" law, under which the Saturday Press of Minneapolis was silenced in 1927 by court injunction. The injunction has recently been held valid by the Minnesota supreme court.

Colonel McCormick is leading the fight as head of a committee of the American Newspaper Publishers' association.

On Colonel McCormick's side is aligned the power and tradition of the American press, the weight of Milton's fight in "Areopagitica," his defense of freedom of utterance in the seventeenth century, the dignity of Socrates' famous speech to the jury in Athens before it condemned him to death, and the free speech and free press guarantee which is contained in the first article of the bill of rights of the American constitution.

On the other side is an act of the legislature of Minnesota, four decisions of its minor and major courts, a county attorney who obtained an injunction against the paper which criticized him, and the idea of a legislator who, five years ago, sought to silence a now deceased editor who was attacking him.

The Saturday Press, the paper which was suspended under the law, was published in Minneapolis in 1927 by J. M. Near and Howard A. Guilford. It attacked what it alleged was a gambling and general "racket" business in Minneapolis, and declared that this situation was

STILL ANGLING FOR HACK AND ARTHUR FIGHT

CHICAGO, Jan. 12 (AP)—His pride injured by some remarks made by Charles Arthur (The Great) Shires, and his imagination troubled by things Promoter Jim Mullin keeps saying about \$15,000 for a fight, again have aroused Lewis (Hack) Wilson.

The Denapey of the dugouts has made his reply to Shires' assertion at Boston last Friday night, that "I didn't want Spohrer, I want Wilson."

"I want Shires just twice as bad as he wants me," Wilson said in breaking his long silence at his home at Martinsburg, W. Va.

Asked to what he considered a belittling remark by Shires, Wilson had had another offer from Promoter Mullin, asking him to meet Shires at White City arena—for \$15,000.

Fonseca Leads In American Batting

CHICAGO, Jan. 12 (AP)—Low Fonseca, whose major league baseball career apparently was over when he was shipped to the minors by the Philadelphia Nationals four years ago, was the leading batsman of the American league last season.

Fonseca, playing first base for the Cleveland Indians, won the league batting title with the lowest average since Ty Cobb's 1914 championship mark. Fonseca batted .556 times in 148 games, hitting safely 295 times for an average of .259, ten points under Leon "Goose" Goslin's 1928 mark and a point higher than Cobb's 1914 average.

At Simmons, outfielder of the world champion Philadelphia Athletics was runner-up to Fonseca, with an average of .246, and Henry Winkler, St. Louis Browns outfielder, was third with .235.

NORMAL SCHOOL WINS AT HELIX; CHENEY IS NEXT

(Continued from Page One)

the third period, a Helix rally put the count Normal school 25, Red Devils 24. During that frame, the La Grande team made only one basket.

Houchens, Sarrett Lead Rally

A whirlwind finish, however, with Houchens and Sarrett doing all the scoring, put the game on ice. The two men scored 11 points while Helix was counting six.

The Normal school team in working the floor in much better shape, and the teamwork is developing rapidly. Indications are that Bob Quinn's hoop team may give its opponents plenty to think about before the season has ended, and La Grande basketball fans are assured of a number of high class games.

The Normal school team members alternated in scoring, with Houchens gathering 10, Sullivan 10, Crawford 3 and Sarrett 5. For the Red Devils, King counted 10 and Tucker went him one better to score 11.

The first of this week will find the Mountaineers going through a period of hard practice, in preparation for their first "conference" tilt.

Summary:

Normal School	FG	FT	PP
Houchens, f.	4	2	10
Sullivan, f.	4	2	10
Crawford, c.	2	2	8
McCully, g.	0	0	0
Sarrett, g.	4	5	3
Carden, f.	6	6	6
Price, g.	6	0	6
	15	6	25

Helix	FG	FT	PP
Deannell, f.	0	1	2
Nelson, f.	1	0	2
King, c.	4	2	10
Pierce, g.	2	0	4
Tompson, g.	1	0	2
Tucker, g.	2	5	11
	11	8	39

Kamela School Begins Second Term Of Work

By Mrs. C. E. Thornburg (Observer Correspondent)
KAMELA, Ore. (Special) — School children here have started on the new semester work all having passed the mid-year examinations. Barton Broms is a new first grade pupil. He went to Merham school last fall, but his parents are now living in Kamela so he goes to school here. His father, M. Broms is the new Kamela agent.

Kamela has reason to be very proud of a little second grade pupil, James Baker, who won a picture for the school in the health seal contest which was held recently. Jimmie's health sentence was the best in his grade in Union county.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hug have moved to Kamela from La Grande. We have a helping Guy Thomsen out here by the Mr. Emily Lamber company in La Grande.

Mrs. P. Biever and Mrs. P. P. Brooks attended the annual banquet given by the G. I. A. in La Grande for local engineers and their families.

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Improvement Gossip

Decorating—Some redecorating and remodeling is being done at the Roca-exen Inn, the redecorating by the Harg Paint company.

On Business—Lee Hamfield has spent about a week in Walla Walla and Pavo and Lynn Westonskow spent about a week in Boise and Nampa transacting business for Fred Smith.

Sick Season—Due to the cold wave, improvement work has been at a low mark during the last week, a seasonal condition. Local Home and con-

tractors are looking forward to a heavy year with the coming of the spring season.

Remodeling Home—C. P. Hutchens is remodeling his home on East M avenue, near the La Grande Flouring mill. Extensive improvements are being made, including the building of a basement, installation of a furnace, and a general remodeling of the dwelling place.

MAY OPERATE ON TUESDAY
NEW YORK, Jan. 12 (AP)—Gen. Tunney, retired heavyweight boxing champion, is under observation at the Presbyterian hospital for a kidney ailment. Dr. George Wardlaw Peck, Tunney's physician, said he would issue a bulletin this afternoon at which time he would know whether an operation to remove a stone from the right kidney would be necessary.

SPLINTERS

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According to all reports, La Grande will have at least as good a building year as last year.

Are you troubled with cold feet? If so, buy KNIGHT'S Spring Canyon Coal next time. No use having cold feet. Doubly lucky these cold days, is the man with plenty of face and seniority "whiskers."

Health Hint for January: Statistics prove conclusively that a locomotive is not afraid of a motor car.

Are you troubled with cold feet? If so, buy KNIGHT'S Spring Canyon Coal next time. No use having cold feet. Doubly lucky these cold days, is the man with plenty of face and seniority "whiskers."

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