

CITY EDITION

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER OREGON: Clearing and colder tonight with local rains in the northeast portion, Thursday generally fair.

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LA GRANDE, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1930

MEMBER A. B. C.

NUMBER 145

YOUTH HERE NOT WICKED. CHIEF SAYS

Clint Haynes Would Match Their Morals with Any Northwest City.

ATTACKS GOSSIP IN P. T. A. TALK

Officer also tells Women's Association That Prohibition Gains Ground Here.

Speaking with authority, gained by his widespread knowledge of local conditions, Police Chief Clint Haynes assured members of the La Grande City Council of Person Teacher Association that their children will compare favorably with those in any city.

"You take any place the size of La Grande, and I'll match our kids' records against it," he confidently asserted.

The young people of La Grande have been much maligned at times during the past years, due to the spread of slanderous rumors that before they had been pitted many times, began to be regarded as holding a certain amount of truth.

He pointed out that gossip of this nature, founded on malicious rumors, works a great injustice on both the children and the community.

As an example, Mr. Haynes stated that some time ago there was a rumor that a large number of high school students were using narcotic drugs. To learn how much truth the story carried, a federal agent came into La Grande and for three weeks systematically and thoroughly investigated the records of every high school student.

When his work was completed it was definitely established that only two students had ever used narcotics, and following his report, the man who sold the narcotics to the two was arrested, convicted and sent to McNeil Island.

Mr. Haynes said that at present rumors are heard that high school students are drinking considerably. He denied that this is a fact and said that it would amuse one to learn the exceptionally high plane of sobriety maintained among the youth of this city.

Rumors Aid Wets Speaking of prohibition, Mr. Haynes again referred to what life talk can here accomplish. "Some people say we are getting worse and worse," he said, "but these people are either wet or unconsciously co-operating with the wet element in spreading their propaganda."

He pointed out that seven years ago, there were 450 arrests and 124 liquor violations. Last year the liquor violations amounted to only a little over 40 and in the period between the two years, the total had decreased steadily.

Judge U. G. Couch, juvenile judge, also spoke at the meeting, in reference to the child question. It has been his experience that

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RAINS TAKING SNOW OFF IN SPEEDY TIME

Rain continues to fall in La Grande, with stretches of clear, spring-like weather separating the precipitation, and at 7:30 this morning the moisture for the night was measured at 1.8 of an inch.

This brings the total for the last several days to more than an inch, some of which is soaking into the ground to some extent. The rain, at least, is clearing away the snow in rapid fashion.

Temperatures have been higher than usually during the last week, with yesterday's maximum at 49 above. There have been no minimum marks below 24 for several days, and last night the low was 24 above.

Forty-five above was the warmest day. February 1, 1929 and already, this month has seen a few days above this mark. The minimum last February was six below zero, made on Feb. 8.

COACH STEVENSON DIES

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 3 (AP)—A. Stevenson, 51, assistant football coach at the University of Pittsburgh and well known among the leading football mentors of the country, died today while members of his family were on their way here by airplane from Hollywood, Cal.

WEATHER TODAY 7:30 a. m.—24 above. Minimum: 24 above. Condition: cloudy.

WEATHER YESTERDAY Maximum 49, minimum 22 above. Condition: partly cloudy, rain 1 1/2 of an inch.

WEATHER FEB. 5, 1929 Maximum 29, minimum 19 above. Condition: cloudy, snow half an inch.

BOY HERO



While his parents' home blazed, little Ernest Umphrey, 9, of Santa Ana, Cal., carried five sleeping brothers and sisters to safety. Citizens of that city have started a movement for a Carnegie medal for the young hero.

PLAINTIFF WINS VERDICT OF \$298

Two Cases Resubmitted to Grand Jury—Baxter Pleads Guilty.

The civil action of S. B. Williamson vs. L. C. Smith, which was tried in circuit court Monday and yesterday, ended late Tuesday when the jury returned a verdict of \$298 for the plaintiff.

Today the court was hearing the case of L. A. Stringham vs. Donzella Johnson et al. Circuit Judge J. W. Knowles is presiding.

The cases of Tony Martinez and Faustino Banta, charged with larceny, were also heard.

Tigers Beaten 21-14 By North Powder Quintet

Although they carried the offense into North Powder territory a majority of the time, inability to score resulted in a Tiger defeat at North Powder last night, 21 to 14.

Coach Ira Woodie took a squad of 14 to the southern town, and nine were used, but the team was unable to find its shooting eye.

North Powder, with a good team this year, took an early lead and increased it during the contest.

Cundiff, of Baker, refereed the game.

Friday afternoon the Tigers will journey to Pendleton for a return game with the Buckaroos.

Spurred by the defeat here last Friday, and the setback at North Powder last night, the squad is anxious to meet the Emmilla players, hoping to make a much better showing than previously.

Postmaster Huron Speaks at Rotary

A very interesting talk relative to business in the local post office was given during today's Rotary luncheon at the La Grande hotel by Major Ralph Huron, postmaster.

Mr. Huron explained the civil service operations, including salaries and pensions of employees, and showed why the spirit of postal employees is higher than that in usual business establishments.

The major explained that the ratings of post offices the size of La Grande were established entirely upon the amount of receipts taken in from the sale of stamps.

This business was \$46,996 during 1929 locally, an increase of 50 per cent in the last eight years. The speaker stressed the point that a great deal of postage money spent on stamps by La Grande firms is not credited here for the reason that they are bought by mail order companies outside of this city and mailed to the firms here.

He believes this condition could be changed to benefit La Grande, as higher receipts means more help and increased service.

The attendance at the luncheon today was large.

VAULT IS LOOTED PORTST GROVE, Ore., Feb. 5 (AP)—The vault in the office of the Pacific university here was looted during the night but the thieves gained nothing. Authorities said Monday was supposed to have been registration day at the university but a small epidemic of smallpox caused a postponement.

First Staging "Torchbearers" Is This Evening

Two Matinee Performances for Grade School Children Bring Much Praise to Cast.

A few good seats are still available for the student body play "The Torchbearers," which has its opening tonight at the La Grande high school auditorium, the performance to start at 8:15 o'clock. After 7:15 reserved seats will be sold at the high school.

After two matinees, both very successful, the players have gained experience, and are awaiting tonight's opening with anticipation. This is the first all student body play to be presented, and is regarded as a new venture, which so far has shown signs of fulfilling the standards of quality shown by previous high school dramas.

Adults attending the matinee yesterday were pleased, and agreed that it was one of the best plays yet presented.

Student body officers are: Robert Stoddard, president; Harold Hoyt, vice president; Margaret A. Smith, secretary-treasurer; Claire Perkins, business manager, who is also business manager for the play. In the class contest for the ticket sale the seniors won first place, juniors second.

Lee Johnson is assisting Claire Perkins as business manager. Nick Hughes is stage manager; Edwin Briggs, electrician. The property man is Roy Nelson; artistic effects, Donald Pouch; and prompter, Iris Hughes. Miss Hughes is also chairman of the make-up committee.

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Scout Board Of Review Will Be Given Tonight

A preliminary to the Boy Scout court of honor to be held next Monday night, is the board of review this evening in the chamber of commerce with Charles Binger in charge. The review is a final test to be sure that the boy has earned his badge. The court of honor will be held in the high school auditorium at 7:30, Feb. 10.

Those boys who are trying for badges tonight are: first aid to animals; Donald McHugh, Orvil Sallor; Broomanship, Donald McHugh, Maurice Beck; book binding, Orvil Sallor, Maurice Beck; personal health, John Towery, Rex Chaffin, Roy Stein, Robert McMillan; horsemanship, Riley Lambert; cycling, Charles Elekrook; woodwork, Bamorell; swimming, Fred Higgins, Ray Wilson, Elvin King; soil management, Woodrow Damerell; first aid, public health, and gardening, Ernest Higgins; photography, Ray Wilson.

An intertroop fox and hound chase will be held next Saturday, between troops 4 and 14, in the mountains west of La Grande. The boys will meet at the First Presbyterian church at 9 a. m. One troop will represent the hares, the other the hounds. The hares will leave, and after a stated time, the hounds will follow, and in order to win must catch up with the hares before four hours have elapsed.

This activity is only one of several which will take place during anniversary week and the early spring.

County Court In February Session

Members of the Union county court, meeting in the February session today in Judge E. G. Couch's office, were busily engaged with routine matters this afternoon.

Opening of bids on gasoline, oil and tires was scheduled to take place tomorrow.

Local Minister Determined to Bring Poultry Thief Before the Courts

The Rev. Frank Hopkins reports that he has found the lock and broken staple which the intruder threw away the night of January 23 when he broke into the minister's poultry house and carried away eight or ten barred Rock hens, about as many as one man could carry. The thief had broken the staple, made of hard steel, which held the lock. It was a difficult job, as the pastor indicates, the pastor says. He had tried to break the lock but it held firm, however, it was bent considerably on one side. The thief had thrown it down in a heavy drift of snow near the door. The twisted staple was lying about a foot from the lock. Mr. Hopkins found it after the snow and ice had melted away.

Mr. Hopkins still has hopes of convicting the thief. "We know who he is beyond any doubt," he said, "and we are waiting for facts, their evidence necessary to convict him before making any arrests. We have traced him to his very door. And I will get him even if it takes me ten years to do the job, if I stay in Union county that long. And if there is no other

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THREE HOPE TO REACH AN AGREEMENT

America, Great Britain and Japan Facing Definite Proposals.

U. S. PRESENTS REDUCTION PLAN

Details Withheld But Naval Scheme is Said to Follow 5-5-3 Capital Ship Ratio.

LONDON, Feb. 5 (AP)—The highest authority stated today that America, Great Britain and Japan expected to reach a tentative agreement within a few days for reduction of capital ships, or battleships contained in those countries' navies.

The scheme stated that the Americans had submitted definite proposals to Great Britain and Japan. While the details were withheld it was understood the proposed reduction would follow the 5-5-3 capital ship ratio established at the Washington conference.

It was said, however, that the proposed agreement between the three nations would be only tentative, the Americans contending that it was contingent upon the settling of the cruiser question.

The general problem of battleships is being negotiated now between the delegations of the three countries. The general attitude of the three delegation chiefs is said to be that there are prospects of ready acceptance although thus far there is no agreement between any two.

The British capital ship total now stands at twenty. The Americans have eighteen of the battleships and the Japanese ten. These limits were set by the Washington conference.

Members of the French delegation expressed their approval of the proposed agreement and said

La Grande Team Wins From Elgin

Winning three games of four played, the La Grande volleyball team defeated the Elgin team last evening in the ballroom of the La Grande hotel. Elgin recently defeated La Grande by the same score. Last night's game was hard fought, and a thriller for the many spectators.

Paul Meyers, Elmo Stevenson, T. K. Bellamy, J. H. Pease, Frances Greulich, and J. R. Garly represented the local team. Their next game will be with Inlander here, Feb. 12.

Pretty Indian Is Ordered to Prison

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 5 (AP)—Almond Leches, Isanek, pretty 28-year-old Klamath Indian, was ordered to prison today by Federal Judge Bean, her parole revoked when it was learned that she had severely beaten her aged mother while intoxicated.

"Atky" Diversion Very Small, Claim

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (AP)—Warning recent charges of wide diversion of denatured alcohol to bootleg channels, Prohibition Commissioner Doran today said diversion last year did not amount to more than three per cent of the total production.

Senator Borah and others in congressional circles have asserted the diversion of alcohol for illegal purposes was a major prohibition problem.

Sheriff Defends Conditions At Bly

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Feb. 5 (AP)—Sheriff Lloyd Low said here today that conditions at Bly, Ore., as pictured by federal authorities at Portland, were "greatly exaggerated."

The sheriff said: "Bly is a new railroad and lumber town and is naturally not the tamest in the world but conditions have been exaggerated through the efforts of enforcement agencies the town has been tamed and is going to remain so. Bootleggers had a chance to hole up and get started while prohibition agents were waiting funds to clean up the place."

Prince of Wales In East Africa

HERA, Portuguese East Africa, Feb. 5 (AP)—The Prince of Wales arrived here today after a long railway trip from Capetown by way of Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia. After saying farewell to the railway officials who had accompanied his train he and his staff boarded the steamer Modasa which left immediately for Mombasa, British East Africa.

Wagon Driver Is Fined for Speeding

NEW YORK, Feb. 5 (AP)—For reckless driving in a motor car, a driver was fined \$100 by the traffic court, Thomas Dawney is in the house for two days. He was oversteering with his horse and wagon.

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New President Of Mexico Takes Oath Of Office

Many Nations Represented at Inauguration Ceremony in Capital of Nation Today.

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 5 (AP)—Stressing the "particularly good relations" existing between Mexico and the United States and pledging his government to five years of hard work in the interest of the common people, Pascual Ortiz Rubio took office today as president of Mexico.

It was the second time in recent history that a civilian took over the reins of power in Mexico peacefully. President Portes Gil, who retired today, being the first.

At least 40,000 persons had jammed their way into the national stadium for the inaugural and in the crowd were hundreds of Americans.

Deputy Melchor Ortega, president of the joint session of congress meeting on a wooden platform in the center of the field, administered the oath.

The ambassadors of 15 nations and the entire diplomatic corps accredited to Mexico were assembled in formal dress on the platform which also seated all of the high military commanders, the state governors, the supreme court magistrates and other important officials.

The ceremony, which took place at noon, was brief but was accompanied by the same colorful military display that characterized the inauguration of President Portes Gil on December 1, 1928. Retiring and incoming presidents passed from the national palace through lines of troops into the gates of the stadium, cavalry detachments in dress uniforms acting as escorts.

Trumpets heralded their arrival and military bands inside the stadium broke into stirring music and the crowd cheered as the two men mounted the platform.

The inauguration attracted Mexican City's greatest influx of American tourists in the past 25 years. The hotels have been overcrowded and many visitors had to

COUNTY WILL SEND MEN TO BOISE MEETING

By Mrs. L. Z. Terrill (Observer Correspondent) UNION, Ore., Feb. 5 (Special)—At an interesting meeting of dairy-men of Eastern Oregon held at the Union hotel at 1:30 o'clock yesterday plans were made to send several delegates to a conference in Boise Monday evening at which Mr. Schilling, a member of the county dairy board, is to take an active part. Mr. Schilling was appointed by President Hoover to represent the interest of the dairy division. He comes from the Land of Lake Cream and Butter Marketing agency in Minnesota.

Four Union men were appointed to go to Boise. They are C. L. Cadwell, J. P. Hutchinson, C. P. Edvalson and James Kofford. County Agent H. G. Avery, Hans Kofford, county dairy tester, both of La Grande, and T. B. Johnson and Ralph Constock, of Cove, will also go to Boise.

The main object of the Boise conference is to discuss the dairy situation in the west and to make provisions for marketing surplus production. It is expected that there will be a good representation of delegates from Eastern Oregon and Idaho at the meeting.

CHICAGO VIEWS MORE SLAYINGS

Two Murders Bring Total to Six in as Many Days, With Two Badly Hurt.

CHICAGO, Feb. 5 (AP)—Two murders, one to the house of radio, the other to the chatter of children's voices, kept Chicago's crime wave pouring steadily along today.

When two men slew Phillip Marchese, a racketeer, near the Irving school at Lexington street and 1500 avenue yesterday, it made five gang slayings in six days. When, last night, several men killed Joseph Buckers in his home, neighbors said the man, about 49 years old, was in the grocery business. He was alone in his well furnished flat on West 71st street when two men called last night.

Elizabeth Prodanas, who conducts a grocery business on the ground floor of the two story flat building, heard the men when they arrived, and heard Buckers admit them. A few minutes later there was the sound of voices raised in argument. "The music from the radio in the Buckers flat increased in volume, and a moment later Mrs. Prodanas heard the men running down the rear stairs."

She was unable to enter the Buckers apartment because of the spring lock, and called police. When they forced the door, they said, the radio was blaring away with "Heil Hitler, the Gang's All Here," and Buckers' body lay on the floor, face down.

Despite the noise from the radio, Mrs. Prodanas said she heard the thud of Buckers' body when it fell, and it was this that led her to investigate.

Although the Marchese murder was committed within sight of several persons including school children, none could be found today who was able to give a description of the slayers. Henry Johnson was standing not far away, said: "I heard two shots. I saw Mar-

FILIPINO CLUB HOUSE BOMBED

Seventy-five men, women and children escaped injury by a miracle when a night dynamite blast wrecked the Filipino Center Club at Stockton, Cal. Restriction of immigration from the Philippines has been suggested in Senate as a direct result of the widespread disorders in that state.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (AP)—After a ten minute visit to the sick bed of William Howard Taft, President Hoover said today he had found the former president and chief justice sitting up and very cheerful.

The president was accompanied on his call by Mrs. Hoover. They were escorted immediately to the sick room.

The president and his wife greeted Mr. Taft and chatted with him for a few moments.

The president made the conversation short in order not to exhaust the weakened man.

He and Mrs. Hoover stopped for a few minutes in an adjoining room to talk with Mrs. Taft before returning to the White House.

The president and the former chief justice long have been friends.

Placed at Bulletin Mr. Hoover was highly pleased at the optimistic bulletin which was issued today by Mr. Taft's physicians, and at the opportunity to see the former president.

The White House has been keeping in constant touch with the Taft home since the return of the former chief justice from Asheville, N. C., yesterday.

The bulletin issued during the forenoon was made public at the White House executive offices.

The bulletin read: "The former chief justice is slightly better than yesterday. He spent a quiet night and is comfortable this morning."

Taft slept all of last night and upon waking about 8 a. m., this morning greeted those at his bedside with a cheerful "good morning," and a flicker of the Taft smile known over the nation.

A moment after this greeting the former chief justice of the United States dropped off to sleep again.

Regarded as Unusual The all night sleep was described at the Taft home as just what the doctors had wanted. It was added that it was regarded as unusual in view of the condition of the patient.

The only persons entering or leaving the home were nurses; the day nurse going on duty and the night nurse leaving for her home.

It was believed the long sleep had restored some of the strength lost by Mr. Taft on his trip here from Asheville, N. C., where he had been resting for three weeks.

He reached the capitol early yesterday morning and during the day his condition became worse. During yesterday afternoon his doctors described the former president of the United States as being in a serious condition. This, undoubtedly had been aggravated by the railroad journey.

At midnight, however, he had improved somewhat and as a result of a good sleep it was believed the next bulletin from the physicians would disclose that he was holding his own.

SLAYERS MAKE ESCAPE IN CAR FROM SPOKANE

SPOKANE, Wash., Feb. 5 (AP)—Art Johnson, an Adams county farm hand who intended to help his employer out of an argument with two drunken men, is dead, and peace officers of several Eastern Washington counties today were seeking the two men, who fled in an automobile.

Albert McGregor, stepson of Art Johnson, who brought Johnson to a hospital here, said the two men known to him only by sight, came to the farm, started an argument with his stepfather, and Johnson stepped up to assist him.

One of the men, McGregor, was whipped out a pistol and shot Johnson through the stomach, died five hours later at a hospital here.

Sheriff Joseph Schafer, of R. ville, said he followed the night coupe in which the men fled, but they eluded him. He said the car bore Washington license number 12,167 which was issued to C. Ludwick of Colbert.

SUCIDIES AS PROTEST

MANILA, Feb. 5 (AP)—A di. patch received here today from Policiano Rizal, 64, of Calamb Laguna Province, committed suicide as a protest against the recent anti-Filipino outbreaks in California.

Rizal, according to the message left a note saying the attacks had humiliated him. Such occurrences are rare in the Philippines.

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DORAN SENDS HERBERT BACK TO HIS POST

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (AP)—John F. J. Herbert, whose appointment as prohibition administrator for Montana and Idaho, ceased at 12 o'clock today, when he was recalled to his post by Prohibition Commissioner Doran, who asserted today that no charges were pending against Herbert.

Doran, in a formal statement, said all the complaints against Herbert had "been thoroughly and painstakingly" inquired into and found to be either frivolous or without basis in fact, and the matter has been closed.

Herbert, formerly prohibition administrator at Baltimore, was summoned here from the west after Senator Borah and Wheeler had been ordered to return to his post by Prohibition Commissioner Doran, who asserted today that no charges were pending against Herbert.

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