

SCHOOL PLAY WINS PRAISE OF AUDIENCE

"Torchbearers" Presented at L. H. S. Auditorium by Student Body Cast.

LARGE CROWD IS IN ATTENDANCE

Characters Well Chosen For Their Respective Parts—Final Staging is This Evening.

To say the least "The Torchbearers" was amusing, and so were all the characters, except perhaps the maid (June Havenscroft) who was just as a maid should be.

Frederick Ritter, (Robert Stoddard) returned home from a business trip to discover that a new tenant had come into his well-ordered life.

Mr. Spindler (Oval Anderson) was one of those people who never knows just exactly what to do and therefore never succeeds in doing anything right.

Miss Florence McFlicker, (Nancy Guild) was another one of Mrs. Spindler's friends.

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FORMER RAIL WORKER DIES IN ALBANY

ALBANY, Ore., Feb. 6 (Special)—Stephen Jay (Pete) Buffington, 51, who resided at La Grande for 16 years while employed by the G. W. R. & N. railway as an engine crew, died at the George Smull home in North Albany Tuesday of pneumonia, which he contracted at Stayton, Ore., following funeral services here.

TIGERS PLAY IN PENDLETON FRIDAY NIGHT

The La Grande Tigers, after playing in and out basketball for the last few weeks, hope to present their strongest front of the season at Pendleton tomorrow night in the final one of a two-game series with the Buckaroos.

Elks Prepare For Banquet And Ball

With all committees functioning 100 per cent, local Elks are looking forward to their annual banquet and ball to be held Feb. 25. Usually the event is staged on Feb. 22 but it was deemed advisable to postpone it three days this year.

Mercury Climbs To 55 Above Yesterday

For the first time since last December, the mercury soared over the 50-above mark in La Grande, reaching a peak of 55 above yesterday afternoon.

Electrical Group Plans Association

Eastern Oregon electrical men and power company employees are expected to organize into a guild-like association at Baker on Feb. 11, according to announcement made here today.

Remodeling At Hospital Here Nearly Finished

New Addition Increases Capacity to 75 Beds—Many Additional Features are Provided.

In the six months since August, when work was begun on the addition to the Grande Lodge hospital, most of the construction and remodeling has been completed there.

The new addition includes a 40-foot extension at the north end, increasing the hospital capacity to 75 beds. Of special importance are the new surgical rooms, which are equipped with modern appliances and lighting.

The elevator, one that is self-operated and noiseless, facilitates much of the hospital work. In the basement a new oil burner has been installed, which passed the cold weather with a good record.

On the other floors, the extension has been made into attractive rooms, kalamintined in pretty pastel shades, with marquisette curtains at the windows.

Repainting Halls The halls are being repainted in (Continued on Page Five)

Dairy Men Here Keep Equipment Up To Standard

That the local dairy situation has improved greatly since the passage of the La Grande mill ordinance a couple of years ago was the report made to the city commission last night by Haskell Andrews, inspector, and concurred in by W. C. Crews, city manager.

The inspector reported that the larger dairymen have made a very good response to the requirements of the ordinance, and said that this city now has as satisfactory a dairy situation as exists in the state.

In connection with Mr. Andrews' report, the question of how strict to be on the one-cow and two-cow dairymen was taken up and discussed at some length.

Considerable routine matters were attended to during the session. The city manager was given authority to purchase the required amount of pipe for installation work planned for this year.

The city manager was given authority to purchase the required amount of pipe for installation work planned for this year. The salary list, in the amount of \$6318.11, was ordered paid, and the final sum due contractors for 1929 district work, was ordered paid.

It is customary to withhold 10 per cent of the contract amount until bonds are sold. Payments were as follows: Hartman Brothers, \$30.32 for sewer district 3-16, and \$467.94 for pavement district 188; P. J. Lilly, \$273.57 for 191, \$48.46 for 192, \$197.50 for 194, \$71.43 for 195, \$25.48 for 196, and \$75.96 for 197.

All of the latter districts were sidewalks.

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The ticket sale has been very satisfactory and the best ball in years is anticipated.

Fred E. Kiddle, state senator, will serve as toastmaster at the banquet to be held in the Sammie Inn. The dancing will take place in the Elks ball room.

The committee is meeting twice each week and expects to announce the complete program soon.

Mercury Climbs To 55 Above Yesterday

For the first time since last December, the mercury soared over the 50-above mark in La Grande, reaching a peak of 55 above yesterday afternoon.

This goes on record as one of the warmest days in recent February, and is 15 degrees warmer than the maximum for February, 1929.

Last night again found the temperature above freezing point, with a minimum of 24 above. No marked change in the weather is expected in the immediate future.

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KAY DECIDES NOT TO SEEK NOMINATION

Doubt Over His Physical Stamina Cause of Treasurer's Withdrawal.

OTHERS EFFECTED BY HIS DECISION

Removes Question From Minds of Others Planning to Capture Republican Leadership.

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 6 (AP)—Because of the necessity of submitting to medical treatments and doubt over his physical stamina caused Thomas B. Kay, state treasurer, to announce here yesterday that he would not enter the race for nomination as republican governor of Oregon.

In his statement, Kay said his decision caused him to abandon a life-long ambition to occupy the office of governor, "that I might thereby gratify a personal ambition and also to extend to the people the further benefit of my 27 years experience in public office."

"Continuing Kay said: "I base this decision upon the fact that my progress toward absolute recovery from my recent illness has been somewhat slower during the past month than my physicians and I had expected."

"I feel also that the stress of impending political campaign would not only interfere with the minor medical treatment which I still must undergo, but that because of the necessity of such a treatment a doubt might exist in the minds of the electorate at large as to whether, at present, I really have the physical stamina to withstand an arduous campaign and then perform the duties of the governorship."

The Oregonian said today Kay's decision not to enter the gubernatorial race would have a "far-reaching effect on others who are planning to capture the nomination in the May primaries."

DIVISION WINS SAFETY BANNER

Record Made for 1929 Surpasses Other Divisions of the O-W. Co.

A beautiful safety banner, of blue and red velvet, has arrived here with the second division written as winners for 1929 for the best safety record on the O-W. system. This also puts the second division in the running for the permanent possession of the banner, which must be won for two years, before presentation for possession.

In 1927 the third division won the banner, and in 1928 the first division. Whoever wins it for 1929 will be the permanent owner.

Yesterday at the safety meeting, J. C. Albright, assistant to the general manager, and representing J. P. O'Brien who was unable to attend, presented the banner to the division.

It will be shown to all the employees and then hung in the O-W. club rooms.

No fatal injuries occurred in 1929 on this division, but 12 injuries reported to L. C. C. occurred, counting 5 points each against the division. Eight injuries incapacitating employees from one to three days inclusive, counted one point against the system.

With 2,936,528 man hours, the casualties per million man hours, 18.17; with a decrease of 16.3 from 1928, and a decrease for the entire division of 36.1.

During the month of January the second division has had a clean slate, and good start for success in winning the banner permanently.

A. W. Nelson, president, and A. E. Hunter, secretary of the chamber of commerce, spoke at yesterday's session of the Blue Mountain grange. Mr. Nelson's remarks dealt with the agriculture question, as it relates to the city man and the farmer, touching upon dairy products, poultry, fruits, etc. Mr. Hunter spoke in reference to the proposed Mt. Emily road, explaining that the project would require about \$16,000, of which the forest service was expected to provide half with the remaining \$8,000 divided between the county and La Grande. Mr. Hunter's remarks found support with a number of the members, including Ex-Governor Walter M. Pierce.

SNOW BURDS SUMMIT OF PASS BEND, Ore., Feb. 6 (AP)—George Moody, McKenzie bridge trapper and guide, who was here yesterday, said the summit of McKenzie pass was buried under four feet of snow.

Senator Wagner Attacks Hoover Dry Commission

Calls Upon Administration to "Uncover Real Abuses . . . and to Propose Remedies."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (AP)—President Hoover and his law enforcement commission were called upon in the senate today by Senator Wagner, democrat, New York, to "uncover the real abuses of prohibition and to propose remedial measures for their correction."

Senator Wagner, a wet, was a member of the New York state assembly before entering the senate, and he directed particular emphasis to an attack upon the commission's proposal to transfer trial of petty crimes to Federal trial commissioners. He listed ten objections to this.

"Demanding that the law enforcement commission go directly into the merits of the prohibition law and the question of amending it, he withdrew his resolution proposing that the senate ask the president to order this course."

"So far the commission has apparently attempted to cure the difficulties of prohibition, not by looking to the law itself," he told the senate, "but the eliminating as far as possible the human agencies necessary in the enforcement of the law. With all due respect, I say the commission is on the wrong track."

Wagner said he wanted the investigative work of the commission redirected into important channels.

RADIO CHARGE BRINGS ANSWER

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (AP)—James G. Harbord, chairman of the board of the Radio Corporation of America, asserted today he personally would investigate charges that his company "for a few paltry dollars" refused Chicago and other cities use of patents for radio equipment to fight crime.

(Continued on Page Five)

O. R. Coolidge Passes On At Seattle, Wash.

O. R. Coolidge, a resident of Seattle for the last ten years and previous to that time making his home here and for a few years in Wyoming, passed away last night, according to a telegram received by relatives here.

Mr. Coolidge is survived by his father, O. F. Coolidge, of La Grande; two brothers, H. E. Coolidge, of La Grande, and C. C. Coolidge, of Bakersfield, Cal; and a sister, Mrs. H. P. Lewis, of La Grande.

Details as to the cause of death had not yet been received here this morning.

Normal School Will Play Baker Here Tomorrow

In spite of energetic efforts to arrange for a college basketball game in La Grande this weekend, three different teams have wired Coach Bob Quinn, of the Eastern Oregon Normal school, that they will be unable to come this week.

Offers for games were forwarded to Ashland Normal school and Columbia university, and negotiations were also started with independent teams in Boise and Baker. Boise has replied that they cannot come this week. Early this afternoon Quinn arranged a game with the Baker Athletic club for tomorrow night at 8 o'clock in the L. D. S. Recreational hall in La Grande.

The visiting team consists of former college and high school stars. Willamette university, leading the Northwest conference and twice victor over the University of Oregon, will play the Normal quintet in La Grande next Wednesday evening, Feb. 12. This game, and the series here later in the month with College of Idaho and Monmouth Normal school, are expected to result in capacity crowds in the L. D. S. Recreational hall.

New Grand Jury Indicts Mexicans

A new grand jury, in session during the week ending yesterday, and given the re-submitted case of Antonio Banta and Tony Martinez, accused of larceny. An indictment was returned later in the day.

The new jury consists of Ed Jones, George McDonald, J. E. Miles, E. F. Haller, J. C. Lewis, Charles McFall and M. F. Johnson.

RUBIO SHOT; WOUND HELD NOT SERIOUS

President of Mexico Fired on Two Hours After Inauguration.

DANIEL FLORES ADMITS ATTEMPT

Others Are Wounded by Shots From Assassin's Gun, Including Members of Family.

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 6 (AP)—In office barely twenty-four hours, President Ortiz Rubio today was recovering from the effects of an assassin's bullet, while his government, temporarily without its leader, took up the task of investigating the outrage.

The investigation, the first outstanding question to come before the new government, fell to the lot of former President Portes Gil in his new role of secretary of the interior.

"The city was calm this morning and the populace was greatly relieved to read in extensive newspaper accounts that the president was considered out of danger and that he probably would be able to take up his duties within a week."

Daniel Flores, the gunman who lurked on Ortiz Rubio's trail for several hours yesterday during the inauguration ceremonies, which passed off without a hitch, and then struck when trouble was least expected, was held at the military prison while seven others were under arrest on suspicion of implication in the plot which the government attributes to adherents of Jose Vasconcelos, defeated candidate in the last presidential election.

Flores shot the president in the chest and jaw with a .38 caliber pistol. In all he fired six shots. One grazed the ear and scalp of Senora Ortiz Rubio, another grazed the ear of the president's young niece, Susanna Rook, while the chauffeur of the presidential car was wounded in the shoulder.

The investigation into the shooting had assumed wide ramifications today but the authorities gave no indication as to what had been discovered. Troops which patrolled the streets during the night were withdrawn today with the situation completely in hand.

Rubio's House Guarded President Ortiz Rubio's house, however, remained under the surveillance of fifty presidential guards.

Official functions to which many American visitors had been given an honored place were cancelled last night in view of the shooting, but it was believed the program might be resumed today or tomorrow with the president out of danger.

Meanwhile messages from all parts of the world congratulating the president on the failure of the attempt to kill him and expressing sympathy were received by the government. Many of the messages came from high officials in the United States.

It was learned today that a few hours before his attempt to kill the president Flores asked his hotel proprietor who would succeed the president if he should die.

Ismael Alvarez, a Spaniard, who is proprietor of the hotel where Flores registered last Sunday from Leon, said that the 22-year old youth arose early yesterday and left the hotel about half past eight. In conversation with Alvarez previously, Flores asked about the succession and then asked if the proprietor planned to go to the stadium for the inauguration.

Alvarez said that Flores appeared quiet and well mannered in the company of his commission yesterday.

The district attorney said MacKeller appeared at his office and gave a voluntary version of the affair.

Federal Post Road Proposal Approved

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (AP)—The house resolution to appropriate an additional \$44,000,000 for federal post roads for the current fiscal year was approved today by the senate and sent to the president.

BISHOP DEAD



Bishop Charles P. Anderson, above, presiding bishop of the Episcopal church in the United States, died in Chicago a few days ago, death resulting from a heart attack.

Some of them were army nurses, colored in their red-lined caps. Others were Red Cross truck drivers, neat in military tweeds; some wore the blue linen aprons and flowing white head-dresses of the "coffee-and" counters; some wore the gray blue suits of the Y. M. C. A. canteen workers.

Many of them were under fire repeatedly. A number were killed.

KIDNAPERS FREE WEALTHY BROKER

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Feb. 6 (AP)—Saying that he had been released on a promise to pay \$25,000 ransom to kidnapers, Max Price, wealthy 66-year-old real estate broker, returned to his home today after eight days of enforced bondage.

Search for Price which had been carried on throughout Connecticut and in New York City, was ended at midnight last night when he walked into the Bridgeport railroad station. Taken to police headquarters, he told officers, "I've been through hell."

Tied to Bed Eight Days Trembling, stubble-bearded, and wearing five miles of walking from the countryside where he had been thrown out of an automobile by his captors, he told of having been tied to a bed for eight days, his hands and feet being fastened with his captors continually demanding ransom.

He said his captors offered to let him go if he would promise to pay \$25,000 on returning home. He agreed, he said, and received his freedom, his watch and \$1. Still blindfolded, he was placed in an automobile and driven for an hour and a half, he said, and then tossed out of the car.

He said he was in the yard next to his home here on the evening of January 28 when men seized him from behind, gagged him and then took him by automobile to the house in which he was held.

Police "Tipped" After his disappearance police were "tipped" that he was held by kidnapers in New York for \$30,000 ransom.

After a trip to New York by his brother, Abraham B. Price, and detectives, two men were arrested in the metropolis, four here and two in Bridgeport. They are held on technical charges of idleness on bonds of \$25,000 each, and are alleged to be "contact" men for a kidnaping gang.

Wenatchee Apple Men Secure Loan

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (AP)—The federal farm board announced today it had approved an application of the Wenatchee District Cooperative association, Wenatchee, Wash., for a commodity loan of not exceeding \$40,000 on winship apples.

This loan, the board said, was supplemental to one from the federal intermediate credit bank, Spokane, Wash., and would enable the association to advance growers members a larger percentage of the market value of their products.

Major Crosby Will Police Washington

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (AP)—Major General Herbert Crosby, chief of cavalry of the United States army, has been given the job of making the nation's capital free of organized crime.

General Crosby was selected by President Hoover for the task of directing the police, fire and traffic departments of the District of Columbia.

Two Groups Of Women To Visit Dead In France

Congress Provides \$5,386,367 For Gold Star Mothers' Trip—Another Pilgrimage Planned.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (AP)—Congress completed action today on legislation to provide \$5,386,367 to enable gold star mothers and world war widows to make a pilgrimage to the graves of the loved ones in France.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 6 (NEA)—The undecorated graves of 377 American women who lost their lives in France during the World War are to get their just tribute at last from the hands of the dead women's living sisters-in-arms.

Several thousand American women who served overseas in 1917 and 1918 are now planning a great pilgrimage to France in the spring. They will convene in Paris as the guests of the French government, parade to the tomb of France's unknown soldier, take part in reunion jollifications, listen to speeches and so on, but chiefly they are going back overseas to decorate the graves of their comrades who made the supreme sacrifice.

400 American Girls Buried Mention America's casualties in the war and the average person at once concludes that only doughboys were involved.

Yet nearly 400 of the 20,000 American girls who went over with the army found their graves in France.

Some of them were army nurses, colored in their red-lined caps. Others were Red Cross truck drivers, neat in military tweeds; some wore the blue linen aprons and flowing white head-dresses of the "coffee-and" counters; some wore the gray blue suits of the Y. M. C. A. canteen workers.

Many of them were under fire repeatedly. A number were killed.

Taft About The Same Today, Is Medic's Report

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (AP)—William Howard Taft was given a sleep producing potion by his physicians this afternoon to aid him in obtaining more rest.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6 (AP)—After examining former Chief Justice Taft this morning Dr. Francis R. Hagner said that Mr. Taft had experienced some difficulty in taking nourishment but otherwise was about the same as yesterday.

The physician said that Mr. Taft appeared to be as alert as he was yesterday and that his general condition seemed unchanged.

It added that Mr. Taft had a good night's rest.

The condition of Taft was described today by attendants as "slightly improved."

It was said at the home that the former chief justice went to sleep soon after midnight and spent a very restful night and appeared to be better than he was yesterday.

The senate today adopted a resolution expressing regret over the "serious illness" of William Howard Taft and the hope that he soon would be restored to health.

ROYAL DECREE FREES REBELS UNDER RIVER

MAUVKKE, Feb. 6 (AP)—A royal decree was issued today declaring a general amnesty for all persons accused or convicted of rebellion or sedition against the Spanish government during the dictatorship of General Primo de Rivera, who was overthrown last week.

The decree wiped out charges against Jose Antonio Sanchez Guerra, former liberal premier, who has been facing retrial on account of sedition growing out of the abortive Ciudad Real rebellion of 1928 and against other civilians and army officers connected with revolutionary attempts at that city and Valencia and Segovia.

SUBMARINES WILL REMAIN WAR WEAPON

Five-Power Agreement is Reached at Naval Limitation Conference

ACTIVITIES MAY BE RESTRICTED

France Firm in Stand For Undersea Boat—Given Support of Both Japan and Italy.

LONDON, Feb. 6 (AP)—The five power naval conference, sitting as a committee of the whole this afternoon, agreed provisionally on the general outline of the French plan for limiting naval armaments, a conference spokesman announced. The Italians still entered reservation on all points.

LONDON, Feb. 6 (AP)—What virtually amounts to a five-point agreement by which submarines will not be abolished although their activities will be restricted, was said in conference circles this afternoon to have already been achieved.

No formal understanding has been recorded, but it was said the United States and Great Britain, while advocating the abolition of submarines, were prepared to accept the French viewpoint which provides for continuation of this branch of navies but with the application of "humanizing" rules governing war activities.

France is supported by Japan, and Italy, while willing to abolish submarines, insists on having them if France does.

In conference circles it was generally believed that this is what will happen at next Tuesday's plenary session: The United States and Great Britain will propose continuation of submarines but with "humanizing" restrictions. These will be similar to those laid down by the Washington conference of 1922, but not ratified by France. The United States and Great Britain will accept this compromise, since it is known in advance that both France and Japan are adamant in their insistence that submarines should not be abolished.

FRANCE IS FIRM

LONDON, Feb. 6 (AP)—French navy conference circles declared flatly that France would not in any way consider now the abolition of submarines. The announcement was in answer to the announcement of the American delegation head, Colonel Henry L. Stimson, that at next Tuesday's plenary session he would propose abolition of underwater craft.

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The action was taken on the anniversary of the death of Maria Cristina, mother of King Alfonso, who died last year after a long illness. Several hundred persons, many of them officers in the artillery corps, are affected.

Sanchez Guerra intends immediately to reenter politics, probably heading a new political group.

SIB GETS REVENGE

EVANSTON, Ill., Feb. 6 (AP)—"I'll get even with you," said Miss Florence E. Steiger to policeman George Hein when he gave her a ticket for over-time parking. "I'll get even, if it takes the rest of my life."

That happened last June. There is little more to add, save to mention that Hein, who is 30, and Miss Steiger, who is 26, have announced their forthcoming marriage.

NEW YORK (AP)—Rupert Hughes is stirred by two cent stamps depicting George Washington peering in the snow at Valley Forge. He told the Delta Upsilon that by the issue an extravagant government is indorsing what all historians know to be downright lies.

THE DALLES, Ore., Feb. 6 (AP)—An ice jam in the Columbia river near Crates Point, east of here, was swept away last night. Thawing weather caused the movement.