CITY EDITION
Full Associated Press Leased Wire Service
8 PAGES TODAY

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER
OREGON: Unsettled tonight and Wednesday, local showers and thunder storms in the mountains of east.

VOLUME XXVIII | MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS AND A. B. C. | LA GRANDE, OREGON, TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 1930 | EASTERN OREGON'S LEADING NEWSPAPER | NUMBER 210

LA GRANDE'S PRESENT POPULATION 7,970

CITY RANKS LARGEST IN EAST OREGON

Baker Total Shows 7,804, Which is 166 Less Than La Grande's.

BOOKS TO CLOSE AT END OF WEEK

Still a Few Days Remaining to be Included in 1930 Census if Not Yet Enumerated.

TEN CENTS PER NAME

Names turned in to The Observer by youngsters to help on the census count have been checked to date and 49 names were found to be correct and The Observer will pay 10 cents for each name to the boy or girl who made the report. The payment will be made if they will call at the office. Numerous persons were reported as uncounted but were found to reside outside of the city limits and therefore cannot be included.

La Grande's population as of April 1, 1930, is given as 7,970, according to Associated Press announcement today from Supervisor McIntyre, at Pendleton. This figure is not final as there still remains five days for re-checking and for insertion of names of traveling men, etc., who are counted in other cities but who will be included in La Grande's total.

La Grande, although its population falls below previous estimates, shows a 13.2 per cent increase over the 1920 census, this in spite of [illegible] in La Grande are excluded from the census because of the small city limits.

La Grande Largest

La Grande now stands forth as the largest city in Eastern Oregon. Baker's figures were issued from Baker today, the census being placed at 7,804, an increase of 76 persons over 1920 or .09 per cent. La Grande's increase since 1920 is given at 1,057. In 1920 Baker was the largest Eastern Oregon city with 7,729, Pendleton was next with 7,387 and La Grande third with 6,913. The new count put La Grande first, Baker second and Pendleton third.

Anyone who has not yet been counted but who lives within the city, may still be included in the census if reported during this week. After this week the census books for La Grande will be definitely closed and the count considered as final. It is not expected, however, that enough more names will be included to reach the 8,000 mark, as the work of the enumerators and the checking and rechecking has been proven to be very efficient. There is a possibility, however, but it is not great.

Raymond Williams, assistant supervisor, left here today for Pendleton after spending the weekend here checking the city thoroughly.

At present La Grande is the only one of Eastern Oregon's "Big Three" that showed a big gain in population since 1920. Reports re-

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STUDENT BODY NOMINATIONS MADE TODAY

Nomination of officers for the 1930-31 student body was made at a short business meeting this morning at the La Grande high school. Before formal announcement can be made of the nominees their names must be checked according to the requirements of the new student body constitution.

No definite date has been set for the junior class play but it will probably be scheduled during the first part of May. Regular practices are being held each day.

The La Grande high school Mimir has gone to press, and according to the present expectations will be given out during the first week in May. The "Talkie" idea is being used this year; it is an unusual theme and is cleverly followed.

WEATHER TODAY
7:30 a. m.—56 above.
Minimum: 51 above.
Condition: clear.

WEATHER YESTERDAY
Maximum 79, minimum 44 above.
Condition: partly cloudy, rain .04 of inch.

WEATHER APR. 22, 1929
Maximum 62, minimum 38 above.
Condition: clear.

J. E. Bennett Is Speaker Today At Forum Lunch

Candidate for Governor Favors Simplification of Government and Trading at Home.

Simplification of government and trading at home were two of the planks in the platform presented today at the chamber of commerce forum luncheon in the La Grande hotel by Senator J. E. Bennett, republican candidate for governor.

Mr. Bennett was accompanied by his wife on his present trip into Eastern Oregon. He is making his campaign for the republican nomination on the basis of his record in the state legislature and his speech today devoted considerable time to mention of his record in the legislature—in the house in 1929 and the senate in 1929.

In reference to simplification of government, Senator Bennett pointed out that new commissions and officers are springing into being with each new law, increasing the cost of government.

Touching upon unemployment, he said that this causes 90 per cent of the state's ills, and in reference to agriculture, he said that he believes that the trouble is not over-production but rather under-consumption. He is opposed to lowering the salaries of wage earners, contending that this reduces their purchasing power and results in unrest, and worse conditions.

Favors Income Tax

Senator Bennett favors an income tax for Oregon modeled after the federal income tax, but calling for only one-half of the amount levied by Uncle Sam. Although he voted for the intangibles, excise and present state income taxes, he said that he believed his plan for an income tax would bring in as much as at present with less overhead.

Senator Bennett was the author of the bill that changed the time for licensing automobiles from January to July, and he explained why he regarded this as a measure that resulted in savings of much money for the state, besides bringing in larger revenues and opening the way for further reduction in license fees.

Opposes to Mergers

He expressed himself as opposed to the present type of mergers, chains, monopolies, etc., and regards these as a menace to the individualism of American business.

Speaking of the highway situation, he said that he favors good roads but believes that the time has come when we must "stop, look and listen" and then build quality roads instead of quantity. Floating of more bonds for improvements in general should not be attempted at present unless the demands are necessary, he said, as high taxation affects now only the many who pays the taxes, but the working and business conditions as well.

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High Honor Won By Bliss Ansnes, Local Young Man

NEW YORK, April 22 (AP) — Three Oregon men were named Monday in the list of 86 awards of fellowship and scholarships to Columbia University for 1930-31.

They are Bliss Ansnes, of La Grande, University of Oregon, fellowship in law.

Philip Kreiger, Portland, Oregon State, fellowship in geology.

John W. Butler Jr., Marshfield, Oregon, Furman Kemp fellowship in geology.

First news of Bliss Ansnes' winning of the fellowship in law in the Columbia university for 1930-31 was received here and published in The Observer a few weeks ago.

The award is a decided honor for Mr. Ansnes and he has received numerous congratulations from his many friends for his excellent record. Oregon, with three out of 86, was above the average for states in the awards.

Yesterday Warmest Since Last Fall

The Grande Ronde valley enjoyed the warmest weather of the year yesterday with the themometer reaching the 79 above mark in La Grande early in the afternoon. The edge was taken from the warm wave temporarily last evening, when a thunder shower dampened the ground and cooled the air. The precipitation was only .04 of an inch.

Last night was warm with a minimum temperature of 51 above, the warmest since last year.

Parker Fined $100 On Liquor Charge

Jim Parker, arrested over the weekend on a charge of possession of liquor, was found guilty in municipal court last night. Judge C. M. Humphreys fined the prisoner $100 which he paid.

EDDY ACT OF 1929 HELD TO BE INVALID

State Supreme Court Gives Opinion on Bond Voting Eligibility.

HELD VIOLATION OF CONSTITUTION

Reason That it Would be Illogical for Citizens to Petition but not Cast Ballot.

SALEM, Ore., Apr. 22 (AP)—The Eddy act of the 1929 legislature, providing that only taxpayers may vote on questions involving bond issues or special tax levies, violates the initiative and referendum amendments to the state constitution, and is, therefore, invalid.

This is the opinion of the state supreme court handed down today in the case of Kelley Lee, of Portland, against the election board of precinct No. 28, Multnomah county. In this case the plaintiff demanded that all legal voters, regardless of whether they were taxpayers, be allowed to vote on a $6,500,000 bridge bond issue in Multnomah county on May 16. The suit was an original mandamus proceeding. Justice Rand wrote the opinion.

The gist of the court's reasoning is that it would be illogical and contrary to the intent of the constitution for all legal voters, regardless of whether they were taxpayers to be allowed to sign initiative or referendum petitions, and then for only taxpayers to be allowed to vote on the measure.

The court's holding that the Eddy act violates the initiative and referendum provisions upholds the contention of the plaintiff in the case.

Following this reasoning the opinion says of the Portland case:

"But it is contended that the adoption or rejection of the measure to be submitted to the people authorizing the county of Multnomah to issue bonds is not legislation. While we do not agree with that contention, we do not deem it of any importance whatever. It is one of the measures which could not have been submitted to the people. Under our constitution and laws prior to the adoption of the two amendments (initiative and referendum) referred to, and its approval or rejection by popular vote is an exercise of a power conferred by the amendments referred to. But we are not interested in that phase of the case. The right to vote in this case, conferred by the constitution, is a political right which attaches to every qualified voter seeking to cast his ballot at a general or special election, and a statute which denied that right is unconstitutional because denying an existing constitutional right."

SIX-YEAR CHILD LOST IN HILLS

Searchers Tramping Timbered Slopes of Mt. Burney, Near Redding.

REDDING, Cal., Apr. 22 (AP)—Over the timbered slopes of Mount Burney, 60 miles east of here, hundreds of searchers tramped today seeking 6-year-old Asa Lee Lakey, missing since Sunday.

The lad strayed away from his family during an Easter outing in Hat creek valley and since that time only a slight trace of his footprints in the snow on the upper slope of the mountain and a bed of pine needles and brush where he slept Sunday night, have indicated

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Deficit For The Next Year Given At $20,000,000

President Hoover Informs Congressional Leaders of Re-examination of the Budget.

WASHINGTON, Apr. 22 (AP)—President Hoover has informed congressional leaders that re-examination of the budget shows a treasury deficit for the next year between 20,000,000 and $30,000,000.

In a letter to Chairman Jones of the senate appropriations committee and Chairman Wood, of the house appropriations committee, the president warned "there is cause for real alarm."

The unusual procedure of writing a letter of warning to the congressional leaders in charge of the nation's purse indicated Mr. Hoover's concern over a situation which only a few days ago he spoke so optimistically. At that time he foresaw a surplus for next year of about $40,000,000.

The letter, was dater April 18, follows:

"I though you would like to know that a re-examination of our fiscal situation for the next year by the director of the budget shows that upon the indicated income of the government and the expenditures to which the government is already committed through budget proposals and legislation which has been completed we are faced with a deficit of some twenty or thirty million dollars.

"This, of course, is not at yet a

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Moroni Olsen Players To Be Here on Friday

With the Moroni Olsen players due here Friday to present "White Wings" in the Eastern Oregon Normal school auditorium, final arrangements are being made by the student body of the school for the sale of tickets, advertising, etc. Today Ralph Connor announced "White Wings" at the chamber of commerce forum luncheon, and committees will make definite arrangements for tickets in a short time.

Much interest is being shown here in the play, as the Moroni Olsen players are highly regarded throughout the Northwest. Janet Young, leading lady, is an Oregon girl, from The Dalles and of the University of Oregon.

Another feature of interest will be the appearance of the cabby's horse on the auditorium stage—the part to be taken by two men—one in front and the other behind.

The play will begin Friday evening at 8 p. m.

Drops Merchandise To Show Strength

The merchandise dropped from the air circus plane Sunday was not advertised to be given to the first person finding it. The Observer finds that some misunderstanding resulted from the dropping of the various items of merchandise and some people thought that these things were to be given away. No statement to that effect was carried in the advertisements or the news stories regarding the event. The merchandise was dropped only to show its ability to withstand the shock of a fall from the air.

School Teacher, Under Fire, Quits

PORTLAND, Ore., Apr. 22 (AP)—The resignation of Miss E. Cora Felt, teacher in the Normandale school, who has been under fire for alleged corporal punishment abuses, was accepted by the school board last night and today it was announced that Miss Felt would sever her connections with the public schools here at the end of the year.

City Library Now Starting 19th Year—Circulation Gains Yearly

Did you know that the first public library in La Grande was in the basement of Honan hall and its first books, a collection donated from the old Commercial club? Such is the information among other interesting facts given in a phamphlet, telling the "History, Work, Aims and Future," of the La Grande public library. The present library board consists of Mrs. J. K. Charlton, president; Miss Margaret Anson, vice president; C. M. Humphreys, secretary; J. T. Longfellow and George T. Cochran.

"In the fall of 1911 the first concerted action for a public library in La Grande was begun, and the lot on which the present building stands, being then occupied by an old jail building, was set aside for library purposes." In March 1912 the basement of Honan hall was rented, and that, quoting from the pamphlet, was the beginning of the city library which now has a circulation of 39,123 from 1929 totals and approximately 16,500 volumes in its shelves.

The $12,500 donation from the Carnegie Foundation in 1913 assisted the cause of the library considerably and the present building was erected and formally opened March 16, 1914, sixteen years ago.

At present the use of the library is such that the employment of a head librarian, three assistants, and a janitor besides uncompensated volunteer assistance is necessary. This alone marks increased utility from the years when one librarian handled the work with some voluntary help.

A popular department and one of great service is the Boys' and Girls'

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FIVE POWERS SIGN NAVAL AGREEMENT

Affix Signatures to Epoch-Making Treaty in London Today.

LONG CONFERENCE BROUGHT TO END

Capital Ship Holiday Declared—Limits Strength of America, Japan and England.

By Dewitt Mackenzie
(Associated Press Staff Writer)

LONDON, April 22 (AP)—Representatives of the five dominent naval powers of the world, America, Great Britain, Japan, France and Italy, this afternoon affixed their signatures to an epoch-making treaty, limiting and reducing the navies of three of them, and restricting the navies of the other two.

Colonel Henry L. Stimson, American secretary of state, and his colleagues on the American delegation, were the first to sign the historic document. M. Briand, French foreign minister, J. Ramsay MacDonald, British prime minister and Admiral Giuseppe Sirianni with their delegations followed.

Reijiro Wakatsuki, a former prime minister of Japan, and those of the Tokyo delegation who have worked with him through the three months and one day of long and difficult negotiations, were the last of the five power representatives to affix their signatures.

Dramatic Ceremony

The unpretentious but dramatic ceremony which marked the culmination of the greatest disarmament conference of all time took place shortly after mid-day in the ancient and royal palace of St. James. The setting was one for an artist, the final plenary session of the parley being held in Queen Anne's drawing room, with its rich red tapestries from the midst of which looked down the portraits of a long line of English kings.

Fourteen weeks ago the conference was ushered into being in the midst of a dense fog which pervaded the House of Lords in a ghost-like blanket. There was that same fog early today, but shortly after the plenary session convened the April sunshine burst through the mists and glinted from the golden trappings of Queen Anne's favorite room.

Limits Three Powers

The treaty signed definitely

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BLAINE AIDED IN CAMPAIGN BY WET GROUP

WASHINGTON, Apr. 22 (AP)—Henry H. Curran, president of the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment, testified today before the senate lobby committee that his organization had contributed $11,000 to the 1926 campaign of Senator Blaine, republican, Wisconsin, a member of the committee. He also said his organization had spent $29,000 in advocating repeal of the state prohibition enforcement law in Wisconsin.

Recall Petitions Not Filed Monday

PORTLAND, Ore., Apr. 22 (AP)—City Auditor Funk said today there probably would be no recall election aimed at Mayor Baker and the council at the May primaries as the time for filing petitions expired yesterday and no petitions had been filed.

Hugh C. Krum, executive secretary of the citizens' recall league issued a statement in which it was declared that there are 21,000 names on the petition but that the recallers proposed to carry on the drive for 10,000 additional names before the petitions are filed.

Wheat Today

CHICAGO, Apr. 22 (AP)—Wheat smashed down today to below any price level heretofore reached this season. Persistent selling overweighted the market, which was weakened by farther moisture in recent drought districts and by farm board notice of discontinuance of loans on wheat after April 29. Open interest in May delivery of wheat is being steadily reduced, but the trade as a rule looks for considerable liquidation still to come.

Wheat closed nervous, ⅝ to ⅞c a bushel lower than yesterday's finish.

Corn closed ¼ to ⅝c up, oats ¼ to ½c off, and provisions unchanged to a setback of 5c.

INVESTIGATE PRISON HOLOCAUST

AIR CAREER

Gladys Normand, sister of the late film star, is taking a course in a flying school in Los Angeles. (A. P. Photo)

PARITY POSSIBLE AT END OF 1936

Five-Power Naval Treaty Opens Way for British-American Equality.

LONDON, Apr. 22 (AP) — By terms of the naval treaty signed today by representatives of the five powers at London the United States should have achieved parity with Great Britain by the date of its expiration, December 31, 1936. Japan will occupy at that time a ratio of naval power somewhere between the five-five-three capital ship ratio agreed upon at the Washington 1922 conference and the ten-ten-seven auxiliary ship ration which the Tokyo delegation sought at the beginning of this conference.

Nine battleships are to be scrapped, or, in the case of three, converted to training vessels, and a five year capital ship construction holiday is decreed. The ships to be scrapped are, for the United States, the Florida, Utah, and either the Arkansas or the Wyoming, while Great Britain will abandon the Benbow, the Iron Duke, the Marlborough, the Emperor of India and the Tiger; Japan will scrap the Hiyei.

Under the treaty the United States may have 180,000 tons of large cruisers, Great Britain 146,800 tons, and Japan 108,400 tons; in small cruisers the United States may have 143,500 tons, Great Britain 192,200 tons; and Japan 100,450 tons; destroyer tonnage are set at, the United States, 150,000 tons, Great Britain, 150,000 tons, and Japan 105,500 tons. Each of the three powers agrees to keep its submarine tonnage within 52,700.

Neither France nor Italy is signatory to that section of the treaty limiting cruisers and auxiliary craft, and safeguarding clause has therefore been inserted which will allow either of the three powers to increase its program, the others increasing theirs proportionately.

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Issues Warning Against Solicitors

Magazine solicitors who are not bonafide representatives of the magazines for which they are selling subscriptions are calling at La Grande houses and business firms. These men accept money for subscriptions to any popular magazine often at surprisingly cheap rates, but the buyer never receives the publications, nor the company the money, it is charged. The chamber of commerce urges that before anyone writes a check for or buys a subscription from a solicitor, they made certain that he is a representative salesman.

PAYNE NOMINATED

WASHINGTON, Apr. 22 (AP)—The nomination of Frederick H. Payne of Massachusetts to be assistant secretary of war, was sent to the senate today by President Hoover.

Resignation Of Sidney S. George Will Be Asked

State Legion Commander Scored by T. B. Kay — Salem Legionnaires will Take Action.

SALEM, Ore., Apr. 22 (AP) — That Sidney S. George, of Eugene, should withdraw from the leadership of the American Legion in Oregon because of his recent letter to Mrs. Ada V. Skiff, of Salem, Oregon, head of the American War Mothers, is the opinion of State Treasurer T. B. Kay. Speaking as a citizen and not as a state official Kay issued a statement today in which he scores the Oregon legion commander.

State Treasurer Kay's statement in part follows:

"In his letter to Mrs. Ada V. Skiff of Salem S. S. George not only has belittled himself to the point of incomparable absurdity, but, as commander of the American Legion has brought great shame upon that organization. For him now to say that his first letter was misinterpreted merely adds further insult to his original affront. As his answer to Mrs. Skiff's first letter was unequivocal and readily understandable.

"I know that the entire state of Oregon regrets exceedingly that such unwarranted calumny as was contained in Mr. George's shocking letter to Mrs. Skiff should be attempted to be cast upon one of the most worthy and patriotic orders in America—an organization, in fact, which officially antedates the formation of the legion auxiliary."

At a meeting of Capital post No. 9, American Legion, tonight, resolutions will go before the post not only asking that the post strongly censure Sidney S. George, but some local legionnaires will demand that George resign as state commander because of a letter written to Mrs. Skiff of Salem, state president of the American War Mothers. Legionnaires who demand censure and resignation of George from his state post declare the letter to Mrs. Skiff was grossly insulting and that the at-

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Squatters Make Pleas Today In Federal Court

PORTLAND, Ore., Apr. 22 (AP)—Emroy Davis, J. E. Brahan and E. H. Best, squatters arrested Saturday in the Fish creek desert section of the Umpqua national forest, were arraigned in federal court here today. The men were arrested by deputy United States marshals on charges brought by the government in its drive to keep the forest reserve free of settlers.

Best and Brahan charged with trespassing and cutting government timber, pleaded not guilty. Davis was given until Monday to plead to a charge of contempt of court. The court said a trial date will be set after all have pleaded.

Edgar Martin, a fourth squatter found and arrested by the marshalls when they entered the reserve with bench warrants for the other three, is held for arraignment tomorrow on a trespass charge.

Davis and Best were arrested three times previously in the government's efforts to have them vacate their illegal 160-acre agricultural claims. Both served jail sentences for contempt of court.

Oregon City Mills Will Aid Fish Run

OREGON CITY, Ore., Apr. 22 (AP)—Officials of manufacturing plants announced here today they would cooperate with the state fish commission in closing down weekends for the purpose of creating more water at the falls to allow salmon to ascend the fish ladder en route to the spawning grounds.

Mill operators expected to shut down intakes to increase the central flow.

Thousands of salmon have gathered at the foot of the falls awaiting a rise in the river to aid them in crossing the falls to the upper grounds.

Predicts Parker Will Be Confirmed

WASHINGTON, Apr. 22 (AP)—Senator Watson, republican leader, predicted today after a conference with President Hoover that the nomination of Judge John H. Parker to the supreme court would be confirmed "if he goes up against the guns."

The Indianan said that so far as he knew there was no question but that Parker would face the issue, in the contest being made against his confirmation.

FIRE BUG IS BLAMED FOR 317 DEATHS

Officials Believe Ohio Penitentiary Tragedy of Incendiary Origin.

HEROIC RESCUES MADE BY GUARDS

Tales of Heroism and of Costly Hesitancy Told Today — One Guard is Suspended.

COLUMBUS, O., Apr. 22 (AP)—Tales of heroism and of costly hesitancy were told today within the grey grim walls of the Ohio penitentiary where 317 convicts, locked in their cells, were burned to death and suffocated last night in one of the most life destroying fires in American history. And as the guards and inmates of the prison recounted the vivid details, an official state commission appointed by Governor Cooper sought to learn what caused the blaze and why the locked in prisoners were not liberated in time to escape.

In the horticultural building at the state fair grounds, scores of undertakers worked to prepare the victims for burial. The identity of 276 of the dead convicts has been established. The others, trapped in their fire bound cells, were so badly burned identification was almost impossible.

Mindless of Own Safety

Convict heroes and prison guard heroes were described time and again today by the hundreds of inmates who escaped death. These men, loosed in the big prison yard, when the flames broke out in the northwest cell blocks, told of fellow convicts and of guards who, mindless of their own safety, dashed into the hot smoke-filled tiers in valiant efforts to free the trapped men.

Murmurings last night against Thomas Watkinson, a guard who was charged with refusing to give up the keys to prisoners who wished to invade the inferno, brought his suspension today by Warden Preston E. Thomas. Watkinson, one of two guards on duty in the section where death took its greatest toll, was suspended pending investigation.

Two Guards Praised

Prisoners and guards agreed today that the two outstanding heroes of the disaster were Guards Tom Little and W. C. Baldwin. These men, braving the deadly smoke, and heat, went into the blazing tiers and liberated convicts until they were overcome and had to be rescued by convicts participating in the rescue work.

"Big Jim" Morton was another whose praises were sung. The former Cleveland bank robber unhesitatingly flirted with death as he dashed in and out of the flaming building, carrying an unconscious fellow prisoner. And "Big Jim" kept up his heroic struggle against the odds until he he fell a victim to smoke and heat. He was revived and today was on the road to recovery.

Many Others

Other unnamed heroes, whites and negroes, all clad in prison garb, were in the ranks of the fearless.

More than 130 other prisoners were in the penitentiary hospital and a score of these were in a critical condition from burns and from smoke they inhaled while fire raged in parts of four cell blocks.

The penitentiary housed 4300 convicts, some 2500 above the capacity for which it was intended, when the fire, believed of incendiary origin, and fanned by a stiff wind, swept through the upper tiers of the four blocks, spreading death and suffering in its wake.

Convicts Released

The flames were discovered shortly before 5:30 p. m. Within several hours the fire had been brought under control but the suffocating smoke continued to take its toll among the convicts. In the adjoining cell blocks men screamed to be released. And when the prison officials capitulated to their demands the wide penitentiary yard became a streaming mass of gray clothed men.

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BASEBALL TODAY

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Chicago	4	11	1
Cleveland	3	8	2

Thomas and Riddle, Autry; Ferrell, Hudlin and L. Sewell.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Brooklyn	5	11	1
Philadelphia	6	13	1

Elliott, Morrison and Picinich; Sweetland and Davis.