

DIVORCE ON DECREASE IN EAST OREGON

Government Figures Indicate This Section "Happier" Than Most.

MORE MARRIAGES IN UNION COUNTY

Umatilla, Baker and Wallowa all show Less Weddings in 1929 Than in Previous Year.

Marriages made further progress and divorce decreased in both number and percentage in Union county during 1929, according to government figures released for the state of Oregon today by the department of commerce.

The report, as it applies to Eastern Oregon, shows Union county with a small increase in the number of marriages, Wallowa county, on the other hand, had less weddings in 1929 than the year before. Umatilla had one-third less marriages and Baker county showed three less marriages.

Concerning divorces, Union, Wallowa, Umatilla and Baker all showed decreases, indicating that at least for the year 1929, the marriage vows were somewhat more binding than in 1928.

Oregon as a whole showed an increase in divorces, but in Eastern Oregon in a classification opposed to the state as a whole in this respect. Marriages throughout the state increased in number, with Union county following the average but with Baker, Umatilla and Wallowa counties an exception—particularly Umatilla county.

The figures follow:
Marriages: (Oregon) last year \$243, previous year 7,623, increase for 1929 over 1928—618 couples.
Divorces: (Oregon) last year 5,179, previous year 5,052, increase for 1929 over 1928—116 couples.
Annulments: (Oregon) last year 16, previous year 29, decrease 13.

East Oregon Counties
Marriages: (Union county) last year 157, previous year 145, increase 2.
Divorces: (Union county) last year 52, previous year 56, decrease 4.
Marriages: (Wallowa county) last year 57, previous year 63, decrease 6.
Divorces: (Wallowa county) last year 15, previous year 20, decrease 5.

Marriages: (Umatilla county) last year 109, previous year 150, decrease 59.
Divorces: (Umatilla county) last year 59, previous year 61, decrease 2.
Marriages: (Baker county) last year 174, previous year 177, decrease 3.
Divorces: (Baker county) last year 17, previous year 18, decrease 1.

BIG DAY AHEAD FOR COUNTRY CLUB GOLFERS

A golf event that is attracting considerable attention—and anticipation—among members of the country club is scheduled for Sunday when teams captained by C. H. Seitz and Herman Siegrist will clash. The two captains will play each other and as they have been testing each other's supremacy considerable of late, members expect this to be one of the most interesting matches.

The losing team will buy the winners a dinner. Any member who cannot play Sunday must notify his captain by 10 o'clock that a few more names may be added to the list.

The lineup of matches follows: Seitz vs. Siegrist, Perkins vs. Murphy, Binzner vs. Kinzel, W. Siegrist vs. Slange, Hay vs. Theisen, Hill, Dr. Moore vs. Dr. Ross, Ravencroft vs. McKinley, Speth vs. Hill, Grulich vs. A. Payne, Perle vs. Harn, Ralston vs. Weston, Haver, W. C. Williams vs. H. T. Smith, Reynolds vs. Press, Zanger vs. P. Meyers, G. L. Larson vs. C. Behnenkamp, Hunter vs. Reuter, Gustison vs. Hodge, Nelson vs. Zorbrich, Spud, Helm vs. McManus, Ashby vs. Dr. Bouvy, H. Holmenkamp vs. Beckfelt, Mathe vs. Tanner, Paley vs. Wierbeck, Jack Murphy vs. Batschelder, John Larson vs. McDonald and M. Stephenson vs. J. G. Toole.

Final standings follow:
Bernetta Pierson 975,900
Othella Webb 769,300
Vivian Gallagher 672,200
Thelma Fuller 655,700
Virginia Smith 547,200
Mrs. Lynn Wright 250,700
Mildred Smith 132,400
Nelle Woods 123,700
Gwendolyn Litton 89,200
Mrs. Chas. Wells 80,900
Margaret Geddes 62,300
Mrs. Walter Brown 45,700
Pearl Hamitz 24,300
Leah Bramwell 9,100

Believe E. O. N. Is Fortunate To Secure Players
A special assembly of the Normal school student body was held Tuesday morning for the purpose of stimulating interest in the Moroni Olsen players, whose appearance in "White Wings" the school is sponsoring Friday evening, April 25.

Talks were given by a number who had seen the company in previous appearances, and others who are interested in the success of this performance. Edith Connor, who is in charge of arrangements, presided, and talks were given by Frances Dand, Lillian Small, Elsie Yeck, Grace Halling, and Mrs. Victoria Schweizer.

The opinion of those who had seen the players was that the students were fortunate in securing the company to bring them to La Grande. The play in which they are to appear, "White Wings", by Philip Barry is a rollicking comedy which is finding favor with Northwest audiences to which the Moroni Olsen company is now playing.

Normal School To Play Idaho 2-Game Series

Coach Bob Quinn and Mountaineer Team Will Leave Here at 7:30 Tomorrow Morning.

The Eastern Oregon Normal school team, undefeated in college circles, will tackle the College of Idaho in a two-game series at Caldwell tomorrow and Friday, with the Coyotes to play a return game here on Wednesday, May 20. The following day the Mountaineers will leave for Monmouth to play two games with the Oregon Normal school nine.

Paisley is back in condition and will pitch the second game with the Coyotes. Metcally to occupy the mound in tomorrow's game. Louden will do the receiving, as Hopkins broke a finger at Pendleton last week. Waite is playing in cars, leaving at 7:30 a. m.

Coach Bob Quinn and the players will make the trip to Caldwell in cars, leaving at 7:30 a. m. Last night a practice game was played with a pickup team, including three or four fallowders, with the Normal school piling up an imposing lead in four innings, although no score was kept.

OPENER FOR COYOTES
COLLEGE OF IDAHO, Caldwell, Ida., Apr. 23 (Special)—Anso Cornell's College of Idaho Coyotes are opening their collegiate baseball season Thursday and Friday of this week when they cross bats with the strong Eastern Oregon Normal school team from La Grande. The games are scheduled for Idaho park in Caldwell at 5:30 each evening. These games will take the place of the game scheduled with Columbia university, cancelled by the Portland school.

Eastern Oregon Normal has a strong team this year and is expected to give the Coyotes a real battle. Little is known of the team.

Miss Pierson Is Winner In Miss Majestic Race
Miss Bernetta Pierson was announced today as winner of the Miss Majestic contest and will receive the model 93 Majestic race offered as first prize. The contest was sponsored by the H & S Electric Co. and the Arcade theater.

Mrs. Othello Webb won the second prize, a model 90 Majestic radio. Third prize, an annual to the Arcade theater, went to Miss Vivian Gallagher. Fourth, an annual pass to the Arcade, good for one show each week, was won by Mrs. Thelma Fuller, and fifth, a six-month Arcade pass good for one show each week, went to Miss Virginia Smith.

The prizes will be awarded at the Arcade theater tonight at 8 o'clock with George T. Cochran, city attorney, to make the presentations.

Frank Robinson, of the H & S, today expressed his thanks to the contestants for their co-operation and for the fine spirit shown in the contest. Representatives of the Grindley-Grinnow Co., manufacturers of the Majestic, are here today and assisted in the auditing of the votes.

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PORTLAND—Gasoline was selling here for 24 cents after dealers voluntarily raised it four cents.

POPULATION MAY REACH 8,000 MARK

A Few More Names are Coming in, with 30 Needed to go Over Top.

MUST BE COUNTED BEFORE SUNDAY

The Observer Will Continue to Pay 10 Cents to Youngsters—Complete County by May 2.

WANTED—Twenty-five more citizens who have not been enumerated in the census and who reside in the city limits of La Grande. Yesterday's preliminary total census shows 79 less than 8000 and everyone in the community is anxious to see it go over the 8000 mark. Call The Observer, Main 37. The Observer will continue to pay 10 cents a name to youngsters who report any uncounted La Grande citizen.

With a few more names coming in, the final checking of La Grande's population, it appeared today that the census for 1929 will show this city in the 8000 class, according to a telephone conversation with Raymond O. Williams, assistant supervisor at Pendleton. He said that several more names had been turned in, and The Observer also gave him the names of two families who had not been enumerated.

However, there is no certainty that the population will pass the 8000 mark, and with citizens of La Grande anxious to get into the 8000 class, the effort to secure a 100 per cent count is continuing unabated. The Observer is still offering 10 cents per name to any youngster who reports persons who live within the city limits who have not been enumerated.

About a dozen names were handed in to The Observer yesterday afternoon and this morning, but a check with the enumerators revealed that about half of them had been counted.

300-Sheet of 8000
La Grande's preliminary total was given at 7790 yesterday, just 20 persons short of 8000.

The Observer will communicate with Mr. Williams in reference to any names turned in, so that they may be counted during this week.

GASOLINE PRICES BACK TO NORMAL

Jump in Wholesale Prices Cause Increase in La Grande Quotations.

After more than a week of unsettled prices, the gasoline "war" is almost at an armistice, at least that is what the rise in prices might indicate. Due to an increase of the wholesale price from 2 1/2 to 3 cents, the gas is now selling for 2 1/2 at some places and 2 1/2 at others. This noon one dealer was

HIGH SCHOOL ELECTION DUE NEXT TUESDAY

Election of officers for the 1930-31 La Grande High school student body will be held next Tuesday following the nominations made yesterday at a brief assembly. The competition promises to be spirited with not less than three candidates for any office and four for the presidency.

The following have filled the requirements of the student body constitution and are eligible to run for the offices:
Harold Hoyt, Donald Beach, Russell Nelson and Paaky McFarland, president; Ralph Gehl, Hosene Hurley, James Leslie and Charles Walmun, vice president; Lohi Hamell, Lenore McCormick, Jacqueline O'Brien, Anna Eyllis Knight, Helen Newlin and Lois Conley, secretary-treasurer; and Sandy Anderson, David Hall and Fred Nowland, yell leader.

Class Track Meet Friday Afternoon

Attempts to secure a dual track meet with Baker High school this week have resulted in failure, and as a result, the second class track meet will be held Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the high school field. Letters will be excluded from competition for points in the meet, but some of Coach Ira Woodie's first string boys may participate for experience.

Soccer was started among the classes at the high school night before last and plans are going ahead for organization of a tennis tournament among the classes.

LOS ANGELES MAN ADMITS 1922 MURDER

Russo Rinaldo, Accountant, Confesses to Killing of Movie Star.

POLICE SOLVING TAYLOR MYSTERY

Officers not Sure of Facts Yet, Although Rinaldo's Story Tallies With Others.

LOS ANGELES, Apr. 23 (AP)—Following an intensive investigation based on information received several weeks ago, police early today arrested Russo Rinaldo, 41, an accountant, on suspicion of murder after he is said to have confessed to the slaying on Oct. 1, 1922, of William Desmond Taylor, motion picture director.

LUMBER MEN FEAR RUSSIAN COMPETITION

Portland, Ore., Apr. 23 (AP)—Portland lumbermen continued here today that a serious menace to the northwest lumber industry had arisen in the decision of an official Russian delegation recently in Oregon to construct 120 lumber mills throughout Russia.

It was learned that the delegation had visited the more modern mills in Oregon and Washington and had interviewed the man who designed and constructed many of them, Fred W. Horkel, of Portland. It was also learned that the Russians had negotiated with several firms manufacturing mill equipment and machinery.

With low labor costs in Russia and no tariff barrier in the United States on lumber, Portland lumbermen foresee keen competition from the soviet government on domestic lumber trade on top of Russia's invasion of the Canadian market which already has cut in half the northwest's export business to Japan and China.

Ackley Funeral To Be Held Tomorrow

Funeral services for George Ackley, who passed away at Hot Lake after a short illness, will be held from the Snodgrass and Zimmerman mortuary at 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon. Mr. Ackley was 29 years nine months and six days of age and was born and reared in the Grande Ronde valley.

He leaves besides his widow, eight children—two boys and five girls, his mother, Mrs. Martha Ackley, five sisters and one brother, Mrs. Lulu Burnett, La Grande, Mrs. Hattie Makin, Nampa, Ida.; Mrs. Paul Harris, Jefferson, Ore.; Bettie Attebury, of La Grande; Mrs. Lena Sharp, of Portland; and Oscar Ackley, of Ann Arbor, Mich.

Bouvy Pays Tribute To Dr. McAdory

Dr. Leo B. Bouvy gave a tribute to Dr. W. P. McAdory, who died of heart disease here last week, at the Rotary club luncheon today at noon in the La Grande hotel.

FIND BODY IN RUINS

PORT ALBERTINE, B. C., Apr. 23 (AP)—Shot in the back of the head, the body of City Clerk Martin M. Stephens was found in the vault of the ruins of the city hall which was burned here today between 5 a. m. and 6 a. m.

Stephens left his home about 4 a. m. after telling his wife that he saw two men hanging around the hall.

Wheat Today

CHICAGO, Apr. 23 (AP)—Big export buying of North American wheat, totaling 2,500,000 bushel or more in the last 48 hours, had a notable stimulating influence on what values today. Included in the aggregate of European wheat buyers were said to be good-sized amounts of No. 2 domestic winter wheat by way of the Gulf of Mexico, with Pacific coast bids apparently also on a working basis. Renewal of drought reports came from the southwest, and predictions were freely made that unless rains fall soon a short crop is probable in parts of Kansas and Oklahoma.

Wheat closed firm, 1c 2/4 a bushel higher than yesterday's finish.

FIRST PICTURE OF OHIO PRISON FIRE



Associated Press telephoto of rescuers at work on some of the victims of the flames which swept the Ohio Penitentiary at Columbus. A total of 318 prisoners lost their lives. The fire occurred Monday evening.

Snow Falls In East; Weather Is Below Freezing

NEW YORK, Apr. 23 (AP)—Freezing temperatures and snowfalls in some cases reaching a depth of six inches visit the north Atlantic states today breaking records of fifty years or more.

An area of high pressure in the Canadian Northwest which extended to the Gulf coast and reached the Atlantic ocean in lessening intensity was said by weather bureau officials to be responsible.

At Tipper Lake in the Adirondacks the mercury dropped to zero and six inches of snow fell. At Saranac Lake it was 12 above with four inches of snow.

Washington residents were startled to see scattering snow flakes as were early risers in New York where the thermometer stood at 20, an all-time record for the date. Pittsburgh reported a fifty-year weather record broken with a temperature of 27 and melting snow in and about Springfield, Mass., when the mercury dropped to 20.

At Cleveland the American League baseball game was postponed because of snow and cold.

Boy, Lost Since Sunday, Rescued From Mt. Burney

REDDING, Cal., Apr. 23 (AP)—A six-year-old boy, lost since Sunday, was found alive on Mount Burney today.

The boy had been the object of an intensive four-day search by hundreds of men. Early today searchers were spurred on by the discovery of a piece of shirt hanging to brush on the Cornax trail.

Am disappeared while on an Easter outing with his parents, Constable and Mrs. A. L. Lakey, he is six years old.

The weak to crawl farther in his aimless wanderings, the child was found lying in some brush within half a mile of Burney Springs, 13 miles from Burney. An hour and ten minutes later he was safe in his mother's arms.

American Dentist Pays \$200 Ransom

MEXICO CITY, April 23 (AP)—Dr. George Edward Purnell, American dentist who was kidnaped near Guadalajara yesterday, was released by his captors outside Guadalajara last night on payment of \$200 ransom (about \$20).

Dr. Purnell reached Guadalajara at 1 o'clock this morning.

BANK RESOURCES SHOW A DECREASE

Time and Savings Deposits Gain—La Grande Total \$2,695,152.

SALEM, Ore., April 23 (AP)—Total resources of the 230 state and national banks and trust companies of Oregon at the close of business March 27 was \$228,038,650.99. As A. Schramm, state superintendent of banks, said today after compiling reports on the call of that date.

Time and savings deposits show, as compared with the same date a year ago, an increase of \$700,458.47. All other deposits show a decrease of \$1,113,145.92. The net decrease is \$412,687.45, or 3.5 per cent.

"The aggregate comparative statement," said Schramm, "reflects that this decrease has been caused for by a reduction of only \$1,096,281.51 in loans and discounts, but with a decline of \$3,314,856.91 in United States government securities holdings and \$3,100,761.30 in other bonds and securities, and only \$1,338,334.20 due from banks and cash. Thus the reserve condition of the banks in general is good with a total of \$53,302,226.64 available as due from banks and cash on hand. An improved condition is shown in other real estate since there is a decrease of \$254,658.58 as compared with a total holding of \$1,676,471.58. The same is true of banking house furniture and fixtures which show a decrease of \$340,642.90.

"Compared with the last preceding call on December 13, 1929, there has been a decrease of 7 per cent in total deposits of the state." Portland's total deposits are shown to be \$157,522,235. Among others are Salem, \$11,294,244; Eugene, \$7,020,509; Klamath Falls, \$5,918,724; Pendleton, \$5,856,759; Medford, \$5,467,686; Oregon City, \$3,676,000; Baker \$3,630,300; Roseburg, \$3,465,841; Corvallis, \$3,378,834; Marshfield, \$2,812,394; La Grande, \$2,695,152; Astoria, \$2,635,599; Grants Pass, \$2,051,850; Ashland, \$1,995,885.

LOANS MAY BE MADE FOR 75 PCT. OF CROP

STOKANE, Wash., Apr. 23 (AP)—E. M. Eberhardt, president of the Intermediate Credit bank of the Spokane, has announced that members of the North Pacific Grain Growers, Inc., would be permitted to borrow up to 75 per cent of the market value of their wheat.

Formerly 70 per cent was the maximum, but Eberhardt said recent declines in the market were responsible for the extended maximum. Otherwise, he added, the policy of the bank with respect to loans is unchanged.

"This increase," he said, "applies to wheat loans received from banks and discounting companies qualified to borrow from the intermediate credit banks. All loans are subject of course, to conditions heretofore announced with respect to grades and warehouses."

C. E. Convention Opens Thursday

MARSHFIELD, Ore., Apr. 23 (AP)—Coos Bay today opened her convention for the coming year. Delegates to the Oregon Christian Endeavor convention which opens here Thursday night, Marshfield and North Bend were being decorated for the gala event and as the time approached for the advance guards to arrive, the committee, of which W. B. Reddleton is chairman, announced all plans in readiness.

War Vets Observe 32nd Anniversary

In observance of the thirty-second anniversary of the declaration of the war with Spain the James E. Page camp of the United Spanish War veterans will hold a meeting Saturday evening at the K. P. hall. The local camp will be hosts to delegations from Baker and Pendleton and all department officers from Portland and Bend.

Legion Post At Salem Demands Executive Meet

SALEM, Ore., Apr. 23 (AP)—A meeting of the executive committee of the Oregon department of the American Legion to express department disapproval of the much-discussed letter written by State Commander Sid S. George, of Eugene, to Hra. Ada V. Skiff, of Salem, state head of the American War Mothers, is requested in resolution adopted by the Salem post of the legion last night.

After discussion the post decided not to demand George's resignation. "The resolution speaks of George's letter as being 'of such nature as to deeply offend and insult the American War Mothers and other citizens, including the members of this post of the American Legion and its auxiliary.' It expresses to the war mothers 'our deep and sincere regret that such a baseless and wholly uncalculated letter was written to their executive.'"

The special executive committee meeting is asked to "take such action as will positively and unequivocally convince the officers and members of the American War Mothers and other citizens of the state of Oregon and of the United States that the American Legion does not approve, but, to the contrary, most emphatically does disapprove of, and unqualifiedly repudiate the text, contents and sentiment expressed in said letter as written by Mr. George."

The letter, which was written by Mr. George, was sent out a general representative of the legion, call for decisions, nurses and hospital.

Insurgents Die In Battle With British Troops

CALCUTTA, Apr. 23 (AP)—Officials announced today that 12 insurgents were killed and two seriously wounded in a fight near Chittagong last night between the group which raided the Chittagong police arsenal Saturday and British troops. Fourteen arrests were made. No soldiers were injured.

The insurgents were posted in a strong position on a hill and attacked by detachments of the eastern frontier rifles and the Burma Valley light horse. The main body of the raiders was still at large but military operations continued.

SOLDIER KILLED PESHAWAR, India, Apr. 23

(AP)—A British soldier was killed today during a disturbance over the arrest of a number of civil disobedience campaigners here on charges of infringing the salt monopoly.

Mississippi Crowd Shoots Murderer

GUNNISON, Miss., Apr. 23 (AP)—A crowd of several hundred men today shot and killed Dave Harris, 35-year-old negro, accused of slaying Clayton Funderberg, 17-year-old farm boy.

FISHERMAN'S LUCK PENNINGTON, Ore., Apr. 23

(AP)—L. K. Grant, an angler for 60 years, added a new experience to his list today. While fishing Meacham creek he made a double catch of a 16 and 13 inch trout. One caught on a dropper fly and the other on a tail fly.

MANY DEATHS UNNECESSARY CHIEF SAYS

All of Convicts Could Have Been Saved, A. E. Nice Tells Board.

PRISON TOLL AT 318; FOUR DYING

One Hundred Thirty-Three Other Victims in Hospital—Warden's Daughter is Heroine.

COLUMBUS, O., Apr. 23 (AP)—A. E. Nice, Columbus fire chief, told the board investigating the Ohio prison fire today that he believed none of the 318 prisoners who died would have been lost had they been released from their cells as soon as the fire was discovered.

"I believe every man could have been saved," Nice said. "The fact that the first alarm came from a box outside the prison showed there was delay by those inside the penitentiary in sounding an alarm, he declared. The chief said the thoughts of those within the prison who arrived at the scene first were not primarily concerned with the saving of life.

Life First to Fireman "Life to a fireman commands first consideration," he said. "I would not care if every building in the prison burned so long as I could save the life of one man." Attorney General Gilbert, heading the inquiry, asked the chief which of the prison officers was in charge on the inside.

"I don't know," he answered. "I don't think anybody had charge. In fact I don't believe anyone could have controlled the prisoners. "It was a mad mob, but they were doing the work and doing it right."

Convicts Interfered Chief Nice said the convicts interfered with the firemen while the firemen were handling the hose and overpowered them. It was not done with malicious intent, however, for the convicts were doing their best to help, he said.

Death of Warden's Daughter "I don't know," he answered. "I don't think anybody had charge. In fact I don't believe anyone could have controlled the prisoners. "It was a mad mob, but they were doing the work and doing it right."

One hundred and thirty-three other victims of the fire were in the hospital. Glad Heroine Miss Amanda Thomas, daughter of Warden Preston E. Thomas, who seeks to relieve her father of many of his routine burdens, was the heroine of the penitentiary fire. She took command of the situation in the prison office, called for police and soldiers and directed an Associated Press representative to send out a general call for doctors, nurses and hospital.

MODIFICATION IS FAVORED BY FRELINGHUYSEN

NEWARK, N. J., April 23 (AP)—Former Senator Joseph S. Frelinghuysen, who voted for passage of the Volstead law, and who again is a candidate for the republican nomination for the senate, issued a statement today declaring he favored a modification of the prohibition law.

"I voted for the Volstead act," he said, "because it seemed to me the duty of congress to enact legislation to make the amendment effective. "Ten years of experience and study have modified my views. While the law has destroyed the open saloon, it has developed new and grave evils with which the public is familiar."

Declaring the present law "is difficult, if not impossible to enforce," he added: "I have, therefore, concluded that the policy of prohibition must be modified. "Those who desire to use alcoholic beverages should be allowed to do so under conditions of national control that would eliminate private inlets and prevent the return of the saloon."

BASEBALL TODAY

Pacific Coast League
Missions at Portland, postponed, rain.
American League
Chicago at Cleveland, postponed, snow.
Philadelphia at New York, postponed, snow.
Boston at Washington, postponed, cold.
National League
New York at Boston, postponed, cold.
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, postponed, cold.
Batteries: Huxey and Sukerforth; French and Harreave.