

OLD OREGON TRAIL TO BE ONE OF BEST

State Highway Officials Outline Plans for Highway in East Oregon.

TOURIST TRAVEL AT HIGH LEVEL

Number of Motor Vacationists Expected to Remain at a High Figure Until September.

Coincident with arrival of the highest levels in tourist traffic in this section—to endure through the remainder of the summer—state highway officials have announced that the Oregon Trail highway will become one of the finest roads in the state.

This year, due to extensive highway work between La Grande and Pendleton and along other sections, the completion of the 1929-30 projects, it is believed that the highway will rival any in the northwestern country.

Baldock Makes Statement

New from Baker today stated that following an inspection of the Old Oregon Trail from Pendleton to Ontario, R. H. Baldock, state highway maintenance engineer, outlined to O. G. Hugison, George H. Foster and Robert Wilbur of the Baker county chamber of commerce, plans of his department for the maintenance and improvement of the famous highway.

Mr. Baldock stated that "some complaints have been registered about the condition of the Old Oregon Trail between Pendleton and Ontario and in order personally to investigate the situation I have just completed an inspection trip from Portland to Ontario, a distance of approximately 430 miles."

Curves to Be Eliminated

In addition to his discussion of the Old Oregon Trail, Mr. Baldock also outlined the construction of a new road between Kamela and La Grande contracts are under way for the elimination of sharp curves, the widening of the roadway from 18 to 28 feet and the construction of a heavy foundation course of broken stone.

"Grading operations, which are now practically complete, have been in progress in a manner as to afford very little inconvenience and delay to motorists, who are forced to traverse rough places for only short distances because of the fact that during the construction of the road, the grading operation was preserved until immediately prior to the surfacing operation," he said. "Under this condition, the old oiled macadam was ripped off and moved into a new section as quickly as possible so as to afford a smooth driving surface in a small space of time."

New Methods Used

"Both the grading operations and the construction of the foundation course of broken stone, the latter project are examples of new and improved methods that the state highway commission has devised in order to reduce the inconvenience to motorists during the construction of this section will be complete about September 1 and the placing of the foundation will be finished about the first of the year. The contractor will also provide broken stone in a stock pile for the construction of a two inch bituminous macadam top during the season of 1931."

"Between North Powder and Baker there is a very serious problem confronting the highway commission. The light silt soil in the Baker valley is subject to extreme capillary action, ice lenses from under the roadway during the winter, causing frost heaves which develop into severe boils during the spring. This is one of the worst diseases affecting highways, and demands careful study. Recent developments in highway research in the states of Montana and Michigan, where similar conditions obtain point to a possible solution of this difficulty. It has been found there, by the construction of center drains that the free water can be drained from the road bed below the frost line. It is the intention of the highway department to conduct an experiment with the use of these drains which have been very successful in these other states and as a further safeguard to add from 18 to 24 inches of additional foundation stone on approximately a three-mile section of this highway."

"Sometime during the fall the commission expects to construct a two and one half inch bituminous macadam between Baker and Pleasant (Continued on Page Three)

BEN CHAPMAN IS VICTIM OF MINE ACCIDENT

Ben F. Chapman, brother of George H. Chapman of La Grande, was killed in a mine accident near Grants Pass yesterday afternoon, according to a telegram received by his brother. The telegram did not give details of the accident, merely saying that "Ben was killed in the mine."

Mr. Chapman, who made his home in this city for one year—1929—had been a friend of friends here who were saddened by the news. He was about 60 years of age and his family is living in Los Angeles.

WEATHER TODAY

7 a. m.—73 above.
Maximum: 87 above.
Condition: clear.

WEATHER YESTERDAY

Maximum 92, minimum 53 above.
Condition: clear.

WEATHER JULY 12, 1929

Maximum 91, minimum 53 above.
Condition: clear.

Stage Set For Selection Of G. O. P. Nominee

Third Surprise Possible if "Darkhorse" is Picked at Old-Fashioned Convention.

By the Associated Press
Who'll be Oregon's next governor? That question goes ringing down through a state which 26 years ago put into effect the direct primary nomination plan, which since then has been adopted by practically every state in the nation.

Now, Oregon, the birthplace of this blow at political conventions, is making the nomination of a republican candidate for governor by one of those old-fashioned conventions where 19 men can decide who will be the party's standard bearer.

This unique situation followed a stormy political year in which death played no little part.

Two Stricken

Until his sudden death near Christmas, Governor F. L. Patterson stood a fair chance of renomination. Because Oregon has no lieutenant governor, Alvin W. Norblad, state senate president, became governor. Norblad was a candidate for republican nomination at the May primaries along with five others.

Among those others was Senator George W. Joseph, known throughout the state as a crusader, who was disbarred for life from practicing law because of alleged attacks on supreme court members. Public ownership of utilities coupled with a desire to see the Columbia river developed to its fullest strength was a portion of Joseph's platform. The state rallied to his support and gave him 4,000 more votes than his running mate.

Returns to Old Way

It was then Oregon returned to the convention system. The job of making a nomination passed to the republican state central committee, composed of a committeeman from each county, elected at each primary. Of the 36 committeemen, 19 can form a majority and speak for Oregon's 287,000 registered republican voters.

Some of the defeated candidates seek the republican nomination, which probably would be valid, but the situation has allowed a number of new names to creep into the picture.

Phil Meehan, chairman of the state central committee, has been mentioned. So has Julius Meier.

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LEAGUE INSTITUTE TO OPEN MONDAY

Young People of Eastern Oregon and Idaho to Meet at Wallowa Lake.

The annual Epworth league institute for young people of the Methodist Episcopal church will open at the Wallowa lake camp grounds on Monday, July 13, continuing through the week. This annual gathering attracts groups of young people from 25 Eastern Oregon and Western Idaho towns and cities for a week of study, recreation, fellowship and inspiration.

The study is directed by a selected group of instructors, part of whom are from Chicago, headquarters. Also, from La Grande, teachers are planning to go for the full week and probably that many more are planning to go at mid-week for the last half.

Mrs. R. P. Tyler is the chaperone and the Rev. W. H. Hertzog is one of the instructors. The La Grande Epworth League has won the efficiency banner annually awarded for the last five years.

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Woman Fined \$200 On Liquor Charge

Mrs. Flo N. Desaurie was fined \$200 for the possession of intoxicating liquor. Trial was at the justice court this morning and the fine was paid. She was arrested a few days ago in a Jefferson street restaurant, officers say.

Three Automobiles In Collision Today

Three cars figured in an automobile accident at Elm and Washington at 12:10 o'clock this afternoon but none of the passengers was hurt.

W. E. Watkins, of 1507 Washington, reported that he was going east on Washington when a light sedan, driven by a woman, hit his left front wheel, and then a second car hit the rear of his car. Charles Witty was driving the sedan. The name of the woman had not yet been learned by the police.

Putnam Will Give Up Pulpit Here

The Rev. R. L. Putnam, pastor of the Central Church of Christ for the last few years, is giving up his position here because of his wife's illness, according to announcement today. Mr. Putnam is now at Turner, Ore., and tomorrow will preach at Gladstone, while the Rev. Paul Mortimer is speaking here.

Mrs. Putnam is improving rapidly in Western Oregon but it would be unwise and probably dangerous for her to return to the higher altitude of Eastern Oregon, her physicians say.

Collapse Threatens Cathedral

DENVER, England (AP)—The massive central of the ancient cathedral of St. Asaph is settling and threatens the foundations of the entire structure. Church officials have asked the public for \$70,000 for repairs.

GAS WAR AT END, PRICES GO SKYWARD

Stations Returning to 25 1/2 Cents in La Grande After 11-Cent Minimum

SHELL, STANDARD MAKE FIRST MOVE

Others Following Suit, Reports Say—Tens of Thousands of Gallons Sold Here Friday.

Gasoline dropped to 11 cents in La Grande last night, following a one-cent cut in Portland yesterday, and some stations in this city had a difficult time in meeting the demand. Tens of thousands of gallons of fuel were sold to both motorists and farmers, taxing every manner of tank, barrel, can, etc., in which storage was possible. Barrels could hardly be found.

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Attic Lover Saved by Statute Of Limitations

LOS ANGELES, Cal., July 12 (AP)—Otto Sanhuber, convicted "attic lover" has been freed in spite of his conviction for the manslaughter for shooting Fred Osterreich, husband of the woman he loved, to death in 1922. The man who lived for more than a decade in secret compartments in the woman's home was released because for manslaughter the statute of limitations was exceeded five years before his trial was concluded. Both Sanhuber and Mrs. Osterreich were indicted for the crime. The latter is awaiting trial for the slaying set for August 4.

Portland Doctor Under \$1000 Bond

PORTLAND, Ore., July 12 (AP)—Dr. Richard P. Landis, physician in the Weatherly building here, and examined for the state accident commission, was released on \$1000 bond today following his arrest last night on an indictment charging him with falsifying his reports to the commission.

The indictment returned by the grand jury charges Dr. Landis with embezzling several treatments to an injured workman when that man was treated for the industrial accident commission when the commission received information that Landis had collected for treatments that had not been given. It was stated at the department offices today. It was said that the amount alleged to have been collected in this manner by Landis was small. Before leaving in Portland Landis practiced in La Grande.

Hoover At Orange For Weekend Rest

ORANGE, Va., July 12 (AP)—Accompanied by some guests, President Hoover arrived at his camp in Virginia today for a weekend rest. He plans to return to Washington tomorrow.

The presidential party of men was followed by Mrs. Hoover, driving her own car.

President Hoover was said today to be deferring until the senate adjourns a decision on the midle and far west trip which he wishes to take this summer.

No plans have been made.

DISAPPEARS FROM YACHT

EAN PEDRO, Cal., July 12 (AP)—Simon, Los Angeles oil executive, from his yacht, the "Elsie Jane," was reported to police early today by Clarence Gilmore, Stockton, Cal., oil man who was aboard at ashore in a hysterical condition on a cruiser from the U. S. S. Oklahama.

Gilmore said Simon apparently fell overboard and was drowned while they were inspecting it.

Expect Relief From Killing Heat Wave In Some States Over Weekend

CHICAGO, July 12 (AP)—Again today the weather news for middle America read: "continued hot and bothered."

The "hot" part found no contradictions from the millions who have weathered nearly a week. The "bother" was attested by collapsing collars and touchy tempers.

Weather reports would indicate that the ceaseless sun had an eye on a new heat endurance record. Today's forecast for Illinois, Michigan, Indiana and Missouri said "warmer." In the burning northwest, however, a more hopeful note sound, with predictions of showers and slightly cooler.

Break Expected
"A break in the warm wave will occur Saturday or Saturday night in the northern and central portions of the middle west," said the Chicago weather bureau.

The number of deaths directly attributable to the week's heat in the middle west was 74 early today, including drownings as well as deaths resulting from bronchitis. In Iowa alone there have been 32 deaths in the past three days, and in Missouri 24 in the same period. Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, the Dakotas and Minnesota also reported deaths due to the heat.

At Eugene the temperature was 91, the highest since June 13 and the hottest day of 1930. Weather forecasters said the hot weather would prevail today.

Pendleton apparently was the hottest spot in the state, reporting 103 degrees.

Medford mercury stood at 99 degrees making it the hottest day and night in the Rogue River valley this season.

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