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VOLUME XXIX | MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS AND A. B. C. | LA GRANDE, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1931 | EASTERN OREGON'S LEADING NEWSPAPER | NUMBER 126

REJECTS ALL BIDS OFFERED ON GASOLINE

City Commission Considers Six But Refuses to Accept Any of Them

BOXING BOARD FOR 1931 IS APPOINTED

Other Routine Matters Attended to During Wednesday Meeting of City Executives.

Although six companies entered bids, the city commission last night, upon the recommendation of Manager A. B. Cherry, rejected all bids for supplying the city with gasoline during the year beginning Feb. 1, 1931.

The Standard Oil, the Associated Oil, the Shell Oil, the Union Oil all bid substantially 22½ cents a gallon; and the Veltex Petroleum and Texas company each bid substantially 21½ cents a gallon. Associated Oil made 22½ cents the maximum price, stipulating that when posted tank wagon prices dropped below 26½ cents, the city would benefit. Union Oil's offer was similar. Shell and Veltex included this provision but without the maximum clause, and also provided that if gasoline prices increased above prevailing prices, the city would be expected to meet the raise. Standard and Texas offered straight bids.

The bids were opened at 8 o'clock and a number of oil company representatives were in attendance.

Appoint Commission

President Victor R. Melville, of the commission, appointed the 1931 boxing commission as follows: Roy Farnam, Dr. F. L. Ralston, Nolan Skiff, re-appointed; A. B. Cherry and Bill Wilson, appointed.

City Attorney Robert Eakin requested that he be allowed to secure assistance in deference to two appeals now before the supreme court. The plaintiff appealed in the Sines case and the city in the Mathews case. His request was granted.

The Brotherhood of Painters, Paperhangers and Decorators presented a proposed ordinance, which was referred to Mr. Cherry. Julius Roesch asked for some action requiring the

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SKIT FEATURES ASSEMBLY AT EAST NORMAL

A skit centered around the happenings in Nero's court was presented by one of the oral English classes at the Eastern Oregon Normal school when the students held an assembly yesterday. Miss Lena Foley, dramatics instructor, was in charge of the program.

Austin Dunn played the part of Nero, while his "slave girls" were Eva Woods, Grace Johnson, Juanita Crawford, Mildred Tate, and Evelyn Aucoen. Wilma Hill, portraying a negro, gave a clever reading, while Francis Lewis played the part of the Christian derelict who was being tortured. Theresa Tabor was the twentieth century flapper in the court of Nero, and made a "hit" with Nero as well as her audience. Bethmyrl Miller cleverly depicted the mortified college professor who was shocked at the condition of the court.

Mildred Bennet and Kermit Estes gave a modern version of the sleeping princess. She became tired of the silly talk and bashfulness of the boy and fell asleep. She was awakened in the manner of the sleeping princess of the fairy tale by Francis Sullivan, a modern newspaper reporter. The skit ended as they went out to a night club. Moria Young played the part of a maid.

Dorothy Cook announced the skits, which were accompanied by a group of songs by a girls' trio, composed of Hazel Williamson, Grace Herr, and Mildred French. Miss Jennie Peterson, musical director, accompanied them.

The Men's club will hold a "smoker" at the Normal school Friday evening at 7:30, Paul Bull announced.

Mrs. M. W. Huffman Is Called Beyond

Mrs. M. W. Huffman, of 1304 Pennsylvania avenue, died at Hot Lake Jan. 21 at the age of 57 years, seven months and 14 days. She was taken to Hot Lake in August, 1929, and has been ill since that time.

Funeral services will be held at Union in the family plot Saturday at 2 p. m.

Mrs. Huffman leaves her husband, M. W. Huffman; a son, Eldridge; a brother, William Kennedy, of Portland; two sisters, Mrs. B. F. Wilson, of Union, and Mrs. R. A. Wilkerson, of La Grande, and her mother, Mrs. J. W. Kennedy, of Union. Three daughters passed on in infancy. Her father John Kennedy, and a sister, Elsie, died some years ago.

WEATHER FORECAST

Oregon: Rain in the west and snow and rain in the east portion tonight and Friday; heavy snows in the Cascade mountains.
Moderate temperature.
Southeast gales offshore.

WEATHER TODAY

7:30 a. m.—34 above.
Minimum: 30 above.
Condition: Cloudy.

WEATHER YESTERDAY

Maximum 43, minimum 33 above.
Condition: Cloudy, rain .03 of inch.

WEATHER JAN. 22, 1930

Maximum 15 above, minimum 18 below zero.
Condition: Clear.

Strawberries Cherries Bring $500 Per Acre

Claude L. Berry Makes Survey From His Own Experiences in La Grande District.

The expenditure for labor and the profit to the grower for a five-acre tract of either cherries or strawberries is enormous compared to other products, Claude L. Berry, who has made a detailed survey of the industry, states. Mr. Berry has a small farm of his own and has compiled statistics from his own personal experience to show the expenses and the net gain connected with five acres of strawberries and cherries, and his estimate is very conservative, he states.

The strawberry season usually lasts during the month of June. Mr. Berry states that 400 crates may be grown on one acre of ground planted with strawberries. Thirty-five cents per crate or $140.00 per acre is expended for picking alone. Sixty dollars has been allowed for incidentals, for extra help, for grading and drayage, making a total of $200.00 per acre or $1,000.00 per five acres for expenses, which amount would be expended to benefit the local payroll.

Crates and cups in which the strawberries are marketed cost 25 cents a piece, Mr. Berry states, and for the 400 crates which are grown on one acre, a total expenditure of $100.00 would be made, making a grand total of $500.00 "paid out" on five acres of strawberry land.

The total overhead cost for one acre is $300.00, Mr. Berry's statistics show. The grower on the average receives $2.00 per crate for his product, making the total income on one acre which bears 400 crates, $800.00. After the $300.00 total overhead is taken from the returns, the grower realizes a profit of $500.00 per acre, or a net profit of $2,500.00 for his five acres of strawberries, which Mr. Berry believes is a very conservative estimate.

The profit which Mr. Berry figures from five acres of cherries is approximately the same as that from five acres of strawberries, or $2,500.00. Full bearing trees yield five tons of cherries, which are picked for 1½ cents a pound during their season in July, or $30.00 per ton. Five tons, at $30.00, would make the total picking expense for one acre $150.00.

Mr. Berry also allows $45.00 for extra help for grading, orchard boss, drayage, and other incidentals, which makes a total expense of $195.00 per acre, or about $1,000.00 per five acres.

The average selling price is approximately seven cents per pound, Mr. Berry points out, or $140.00 per

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La Grande Team Meets Old Rival Friday Evening

La Grande High school faces one of the most important contests of the pre-tournament season Friday evening, when the Tiger basketball quintet journeys south to play one member of Eastern Oregon's "big four."

An Eastern Oregon basketball championship is still possible although not probable for any one team in the eastern section of the state. The only way a team would be justified in claiming a championship would be for the winner in district 1 (Union, Baker, Grant, Wallowa Harney and Malheur counties) to play the winner of the Umatilla-Morrow district in the state tournament at Salem. The winner of that tilt then would have a clear title.

Also, a strong claim for a title could be made by a team in either district if it met two or more representative teams from the other district and defeated them in addition to winning the title in its own district.

Tigers Have a Chance.

La Grande this year has a chance either way, but neither is very strong. The likelihood that two Eastern Ore-

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Legislators To Inspect Normal School Friday

Following its usual custom of personally inspecting all state institutions, the ways and means committee of the Oregon legislature has made arrangements to conduct its 1931 visits.

President H. E. Inlow, of the Eastern Oregon Normal school, this morning received a telegram that tomorrow a sub-committee, consisting of Senators Eberhard and Johnson, and Representatives Swift, Gates and Allen, and possibly Chairman Angel, would be in La Grande tomorrow to view the Normal school.

While in Eastern Oregon it is presumed that the sub-committee also will visit the state hospital for the insane at Pendleton and the tuberculosis hospital at The Dalles.

Legion Drum Corps Will Have Banquet

For the purpose of stimulating interest in the drum corps among musicians of La Grande a banquet is to be held Friday at 6:30 at the Sacajawea Inn, Roy Currey, chairman of the drum corps committee of the American Legion, states. All those who are interested in attending are to notify Ray Williams or Mr. Currey.

The 1931 drum corps season is just starting and there are several vacancies to be filled. There are, at present 35 men in the corps, although about 45 are expected to join. They will practice in the high school music room under the direction of Andrew Loney Jr., and they are anticipating going to the state convention in Corvallis in August. A drum corps contest will be a part of the convention.

La Grande has accepted an invitation from the Baker post to present "A. W. O. L. in a French Cafe," the midnight matinee success of New Year's eve, at a meeting of the Baker post on Feb. 5, Raymond O. Williams, who was in charge of the skit, states.

NEW RIOTING BREAKS OUT AT MADRID

Student Leaders Demand The Establishment of a Republic.

POLICE RUSHED TO UNIVERSITY

Legionnaires of Spain and Group of Young Men Clash But no One Reported Hurt.

MADRID, Jan. 22 (AP) — Disorders broke out among students in the University of Madrid today. Student leaders in fiery addresses demanded the establishment of a republic in Spain.

Despite the continuation of martial law, proclaimed during recent revolutionary attempts, about 3000 student members of the university scholars federation struck as a protest against the government.

Meetings were held in the university buildings and the menarchy denounced.

No serious fighting was reported. Heavy police detachments were rushed to the university to prevent manifestations outside the buildings.

It was reported that the students had sent representatives to other universities throughout Spain to agitate for a general university strike next Saturday.

This afternoon a group of students and members of a monarchial organization called the Legionnaires of Spain, opposed to radical doctrines, clashed and stones were thrown. No injuries resulted.

Later guards repulsed the efforts of manifestations to seize a portrait of King Alfonso hanging in the university. Many professors sided with their pupils, refusing to hold cl__es.

Government officials and university authorities conferred on the situation this afternoon.

DREAD ILLNESS FATAL TO YOUTH

Samuel Thayer Ashby, High School Boy, Dies of Infantile Paralysis.

Samuel Thayer Ashby, young son of Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Ashby, of 808 O avenue, died at his home about 8 o'clock last night after a week's illness caused by infantile paralysis, which attacked the boy's throat. Every effort was made to fight off death but to no avail.

Funeral services have not been announced as yet. They will be in charge of Snodgrass and Zimmerman.

Sam, as he was known to his many friends and acquaintances, was a prominent student in La Grande High school. He was president of the sophomore class, and his death came as a sad shock to the community and to his school mates.

He was born in Holmes Park, Mo., June 13, 1914 and was 16 years, seven months and eight days of age. He lived most of his life in La Grande, where his father is western manager of the Bowman-Hicks Lumber company. Besides his parents, the deceased is survived by a brother Junior and two sisters, Gilda and Trillian, besides other relatives. Gilda is en route to La Grande from college today and is expected here Saturday.

Mrs. John Doe Forfeits $2.00

The books at the police station reveal today that a Mrs. John Doe forfeited the sum of $2 by failure to appear before the municipal judge last night to answer to a charge of parking her car within the fire limits between the hours of 2 and 5 a. m. It is whispered around La Grande that Mrs. John Doe is very prominent and is very widely known, but many are wondering where she secured the "Mrs."

Roy Ferrel Held By Idaho Police

LEWISTON, Ida., Jan. 22 (AP) —Roy Ferrel, 32, La Grande, Ore., was arrested here yesterday after an all night search by officers from Moscow and lodged in the Moscow jail on a charge of first degree forgery. He is alleged to have forged the name of J. C. Cobin, Genesee rancher, to a $25 check, and to have abandoned his car in Cobin's yard and hitchhiked to Lewiston.

Intelligence, Education Demanded Of Man Entering United States Navy

After "following the sea" for 29 years, William C. Barker, commander of the United States navy, is doing procurement work to round out a career which is colored with adventures encountered in practically every part of the globe. Mr. Barker has as a part of his work the inspection of the newly organized sub-station in La Grande, as well as those in other cities of Oregon and Eastern Washington.

The La Grande station, which is in charge of Chief Petty Officer Endsley, chief electrician's mate, is under the supervision of the main recruiting station in Portland. These sub-stations are the navy's only inland representatives and are always active in giving the citizens the opportunity to learn first hand information, Mr. Barker states, as well as secure new recruits.

One man a month from La Grande, that is the goal for which Mr. Barker is aiming. The navy furnishes a life of adventure for men between the ages of 17 and 35 years and strict physical, mental, and moral requirements are set down so that only about one out of every 15 applicants is able to pass the requirements, making the goal of one a month somewhat difficult to attain, Mr. Barker points out.

Need High School Training.

Intelligence and education are becoming of vital importance among enlisted men since every man is required to have had some high school training while many men are high school graduates or college trained, Commander Barker says.

How to take care of his clothes, how to conduct himself! These are things that a navy man must know, so after he takes his oath in Portland he is sent to San Diego, Cal., for a period of nine weeks, and when he leaves he knows.

Then the process of selecting those who are to go to the fleet and those who are to be assigned to the service

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Seeking Funds For Continuing Irrigation Work

Present Problem, Commissioner Mead Says, is to Get Money For Contracted Projects.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (AP) — Projects for providing the reclamation bureau with funds for the continuation of contracted work took shape today in two quarters.

Chairman Thomas, of the senate reclamation committee, urged President Hoover to support a postponement of repayment to the treasury of $5,000,000 by the bureau.

Funds for these projects were included in the interior department bill, now pending, but the money is taken from the income of the bureau instead of the treasury. The income will not meet the estimates for the projects.

Secretary Wilbur conferred with Reclamation Commissioner Mead and a western congressional delegation on plans for asking an emergency appropriation for the bureau. No public announcement of the amount was made.

Funds Are Needed.

Unless funds are provided, bureau contractors will be forced to lay off 1,500 employes on February 1, Mead said. He had previously announced the bureau would have to curtail its 1931 construction program because of delayed collections from irrigation districts and dwindling oil royalty payments. The bureau is required to repay funds advanced from income.

Thomas asked that in addition to delaying the $5,000,000 payment, an equal amount already returned to the treasury be refunded to the bureau. In all, the treasury has advanced the bureau $20,000,000 of which $10,000,000 has been returned.

The present problem, Mead said, is to get funds for carrying on projects for which contracts have been let or upon which bids have been asked.

Among those he considered most important were the Kittitas division of the Yakima, Wash., project, $500,000; the Vale project, Oregon, $200,000 and others.

SNOW MELTING DUE TO RAIN, WARM WINDS

For the first time in several weeks, La Granders had a taste of rain today, although at times it became sleety and during the morning for a brief period, large snowflakes fell. The temperature yesterday reached 43 above and was well above freezing point today, with a wind assisting the mercury in its inroads of the snow.

The jump in the mercury occurred late Tuesday, following a couple of nights with a minimum around 15 or 16 above.

RAIN AT THE DALLES

THE DALLES, Ore., Jan. 22 (AP)—Following a three-inch snowfall in the higher levels and the grain area, the mid-Columbia storm today turned to rain, with a precipitation of one-fifth of an inch.

The lowland rain was accompanied by heavy snow in the mountain forests. High points on the highways have been rendered dangerous by icy slush, the state traffic department said.

FROST IN FLORIDA

TAMPA, Fla., Jan. 22 (AP)—Frost was reported this morning from every weather bureau station in Florida except Key West. W. J. Bennett, government meteorologist here, said.

Vegetables, flowers and tender shrubs throughout the southern part of the state suffered, but citrus fruit, trees and more hardy vegetation escaped.

County Dog Tags Due, Clerk Says

The county clerk reminds dog owners of Union county, whether residents of La Grande or not, that they must purchase new licenses for the year 1931. And the sooner the better, for the price of licenses for female dogs is now $3, and for male dogs $2; but after March 1, as proby law, these prices will be raised $2 each, making the rate $5 for females and $4 for males.

The law also provides for a fine of $10 and costs for failure to buy licenses. This tax money is used to pay claims for sheep and goats killed by dogs, but the amount has so far proved insufficient. The county clerk has claims amounting to more than $600 for killed sheep and goats, which cannot be paid for lack of funds.

50 REPORTED DROWNED

VIENNA, Jan. 22 (AP)—Reports from Constanta on the Black Sea, today said fifty persons had been drowned when the steamship Javaria buckled amidships and sank with 36 of the crew and 16 passengers during a gale which swept the Black Sea last night and today.

LEARN MORE OF BITTER DISCUSSIONS

Congress and Country Plunge Into New Phases of Prohibition Report

HOOVER HAS NOT CLOSED THE DOOR

So Says Senator Fess in Pointing Out That Other Revision Proposals Not Mentioned.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (AP) — As congress and the country plunged into new phases of the long prohibition dispute today, enough of the inside story of the Wickersham commission was disclosed to indicate the bitterness of some of its internal differences.

There was no authoritative support, however, for reports that the disagreements of the commissioners arose either from any interference by President Hoover, or from any alternation of the commission report after it had been signed by members.

In the course of its preparation the wording of the report was changed again and again in an effort to compile a draft all eleven commissioners could sign.

Long, Vigorous Discussions.

This process brought to the surface in an emphatic manner the varying views of the membership. It led to many long and vigorous discussions. It shuffled some of the members into positions of determined insistence their colleagues found difficulty in accepting.

In the end all but one of the eleven signed. He was Monte M. Lemann, of New Orleans, who in a separate report declared for repeal of the eighteenth amendment. Lemann thus far has declined to add any public comment to his official findings, but he may be invited along with other members to talk to a senate committee under an investigation

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Rogue Closing Hearing Opens; Problem Argued

SALEM, Jan. 22 (AP) — Proponents and opponents of the Rogue river fishing bill now before the Oregon legislature, which would close the stream to commercial fishing, clashed last night in the first public hearing of the present session. For three hours, members of the joint fish and game committees and a crowded senate chamber heard arguments for and against legislative passage of the measure. T. E. Daniels, of Medford, led the delegations from Jackson and Josephine counties favoring the bill, while Roderick Macleay, of Portland, led the opposition.

Statements that fish in the Rogue river were being depleted and unless action is taken, the stream as a sport fishing one would not be worthy of the name, and that 60,000 people in tre upper valley cut down the high cost of living by angling in that stream, were made by the Medford, Ashland and Grants Pass party. Coos and Curry county speakers presented figures and statements to show that commercial fishing did not deprive the upper regions of fish, but to the contrary, stream pollution, irrigation ditches, and riffles which the fish cannot swim were the causes, if any, of depletion. "You can not legislate fish up the river," George D. Chenoweth, of Gold Beach, declared in his arguments.

Daniels opened the arguments in support of the bill by stating that stream pollution did not kill the fish, and that commercial fishing must cease if the tourists will continue to come to Oregon for sport fishing. J. E. Cullison, chairman of the game commission, former Senator J. C. Smith of Grants Pass and O. O. Alandorf of Medford argued for the bill pointing out that only 83 families were supported by commercial fishing.

Anti-Freeze Kills Five In Kentucky

ASHLAND, Ky., Jan. 22 (AP)—Five men were dead today as a result of drinking anti-freeze solution yesterday.

The dead are Cyrus O'Brien, Charles Brown, Ben Pannin, Beryl Cox and Dudley Gee.

Before his death early today Pannin told police he bought the solution at a gasoline service station and took it to a boarding house where he shared it with the other men.

Police Search For Witness' Attacker

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 22 (AP) — Police said today they have identified a man believed to be the person who attacked Mrs. H. W. Howard in her home here a week ago, inflicting knife wounds and head injuries. They are now working, they said, in an attempt to locate him.

Mrs. Howard is a state witness in the murder charge against Nelson C. Bowles, millionaire, and Irma Loucks, his former secretary, accused of stabbing Bowles' wife to death.

Quakes In Central Javal Fatal to 18

BATAVIA, Java, Jan. 22 (AP) — At least 18 persons were killed and 40 injured in the earthquakes which shook Central Java yesterday. Hundreds of native houses were demolished or made unsafe.

Nothing has been heard as yet from the mountain districts where many villages are known to have felt the tremors.

Further quakes were felt Wednesday night.

WIZARD?

Albert William Benham, former Belvidere, Ill., shipping clerk, faces possible investigations because he paid investors from 20 to 50 per cent interest on their money.

SIX BANDITS ROB SPEEDING TRAIN

Florida-Bound Passengers Lose Cash and Jewelry Worth $3000.

BELLEFONTAINE, O., Jan. 22 (AP) —Working with quiet but grim precision, six train bandits routed sleeping Florida-bound passengers from their berths as a Big Four train neared here early today, shot one man and made away with cash and jewelry with a combined worth of $3000.

Evidently timing the holdup well in advance, the gunmen, all masked and armed, invaded the next to the last Pullman of the No. 9 train, en route from Detroit to Cincinnati. One man who shouted in alarm was shot and critically wounded and the remaining six passengers were marshalled in the drawing room with the porter and a brakeman.

One robber stood guard while the rest went through the car, snatching money and valuables. As the train slowed down for Bellefontaine, they leaped from the rear car and disappeared into the darkness. The time between their leap and the arrival of the train was sufficient for them to make good their escape despite the vigilant search for them by deputy sheriffs, police and railroad detectives.

The man shot was Edwin K. Nelson, of Tampa, Fla. He shouted when aroused and was ordered to "keep quiet." He shouted again and was shot, the bullet piercing his right arm and chest. He was in a serious condition today with a punctured lung.

While the robbers leisurely went through the car, Brakeman Morris came through and immediately joined the prisoners.

The robbery occupied about an hour while the train proceeded from Carey, about 46 miles north of here, to Bellefontaine. They disturbed no other car. Railroad detectives thought the robbers probably climbed aboard while a halt was made at Carey for coal. Officials surmised the men had an automobile waiting for them here.

After an hour's delay, the train went on to Cincinnati, where the robbed car was to be routed on to Florida.

Nelson said he was having a terrible dream, in fact a nightmare, just at the moment the robbery occurred.

He said he was asleep in the second berth from the end of the car and had just reached the point in his dream where he was screaming at the top of his voice when one bandit pulled his curtain aside and shouted "shut up!"

Nelson, still asleep, continued to yell and the next instant the robber shot him twice.

ALMA RUBENS LOSES FIGHT AGAINST 'DOPE'

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 22 (AP)—The valiant fight of Alma Rubens to conquer narcotic addiction and make a comeback in motion pictures today is ended in death.

Miss Rubens, two years ago one of the screen's adored stars, lived a story more tragic than film makers would attempt to depict.

She died last night peacefully of pneumonia, but the coming of death after a 60-hour coma served to remove the darkest cloud ever to shadow the black haired actress.

Two weeks ago Miss Rubens was arrested in San Diego on federal charges of smuggling and possesion of narcotics. She was taken ill with a cold, which developed into pneumonia, shortly after being released from jail under $5000 bond to await hearing and trial.

When, nearly 12 years ago, Miss Rubens played the feminine lead in Douglas Fairbanks' "The Half-Breed," she was described as Hollywood's newest Cinderella. Her starring roles in such pictures as "Humoresque," "The Valley of Silent Men," "Guilded Butterfly," "Siberia," and "Unseeing Eyes," during the next decade established her as one of filmdom's foremost.

Then in January 1929 Miss Rubens was revealed as a narcotic addict.

11 "Reds" Arrested In Vancouver, B. C.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Jan. 22 (AP) — Eleven men were being held here today as a result of the celebration yesterday of the Lenin anniversary and a near riot last night. Several policeman and others were injured in the two clashes, one policeman barely escaped having his eyes gouged out.

Constable William Clark was struck down by a brick hurled from the afternoon crowd and was pounced upon by several demonstrators. One man was beaten severely by police after he had attempted to gouge out Clark's eyes. Police used their "billies" and members of the crowd retaliated with "loaded garden hose."

Police Ponder Over Story Of $50,000 Swindle

Mrs. Blacklidge, Collector of Internal Revenue, And Edward Litsinger Relate Charges.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 22 (AP) — Police pondered today over the statements they said were made by Mrs. Myrtle Blacklidge, of Chicago, collector of internal revenue for the Northern Illinois district, and Edward R. Litsinger, member of the Cook county board of review, that they lost $50,000 in a card game to three men who disappeared.

Litsinger complained to police last night that he brought the entire sum in cash from Chicago yesterday at Mrs. Blacklidge's request and that she placed it in a faro game. The federal official, a widow, questioned at the police station, said she borrowed the money to cover a check with which she won $207,500 from the three men last Saturday and that she promised Litsinger $10,000 as his share in her winnings.

Frame-Up, She Says.

She was released and allowed to return to her hotel here last night. She said the game was a political plot against her. Litsinger returned to Chicago in company with his nephew, Fred Litsinger, official of a Chicago motor company who had accompanied him here.

Mrs. Blacklidge, according to the police, said one of the men, named Reynolds, knew her dead husband and had invited her here for a business deal, later persuading her to enter the faro game.

She said when she had lost everything one of the men escorted her and the Litsingers from the hotel room on a pretext of telegraphing for more money and that Reynolds and the other disappeared with the money from the card room.

Woman Not Arrested.

Edward Litsinger told Springfield police he was ready to appear before a Sangamon county grand jury to tell the story of the swindle.

Mrs. Blacklidge left the police station, police said, and returned to her hotel room. She declined to be interviewed today.

The police sergeant said Mrs. Blacklidge was not arrested and was not being held under any technical charge.

Nearly Billion Dollars Will Be Spent On Roads

By the Associated Press

New roads long enough to circle the globe will criss-cross America beneath the straining muscles of some 300,000 workmen this year at a cost not far short of a billion dollars.

Reports compiled today show that upwards of 9,000 miles of the approximate 25,000 mile total will be hard surface. This is exclusive of 11 states in which highway commissions could make no mileage estimates.

The actual cost estimates, not including 6 states in which road programs still are under legislative consideration and taking no account of independent county highway construction, is $886,048,923, of which the federal government will contribute $293,500,000.

The estimate of workmen to benefit in the program is perforce conservative since a total of nine states have no definite figures on this particular item.

Judge Miller, Of Baker, Dead Today

PORTLAND, Jan. 22 (AP) — Judge George W. Miller, 67, of Baker, receiver of the United States land office at The Dalles, died in a hospital here yesterday.

Judge Miller was prominent in Eastern Oregon politics, and was specially well known in Baker and Gilliam counties.

He was only recently appointed to the land office post at The Dalles, where he lived when he became ill.

Congressman And Wife Are Rescued

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (AP)—Representative and Mrs. Bankhead, of Alabama, early today were carried to safety down a ladder from their home on Nineteenth street.

Other than shock of exposure in the freezing weather, they were unharmed.

Their daughter, Miss Tallulah Bankhead, who recently returned to this country after attaining stardom on the stage in England, was in New York visiting friends.

200 Soldiers Die From Cold Wave

NANKING, China, Jan. 22 (AP)—Nationalist military headquarters today announced 200 soldiers had frozen to death in northern Shansi province in the last two days. Northern China has been in the grip of extremely cold weather recently.

BUYS HIM A NEW CAR

MARSHFIELD (AP) — Following an accident in which the car driven by John Granstrom of North Bend collided with one operated by S. E. Mitts of Bandon, the former took Mitts to Marshfield, purchased for him a car of the same model that was wrecked, and sent him on his way contented. The incident established a precedent for speed in settlement of automobile damages in Coos county.

WOMAN'S HIP LARGER

NEW YORK (AP)—There's been an average increase of two inches in the American woman's hip measure in recent years, if Herbert L. Kamber, wholesale garment manufacturer, has things right. He attributes it to auto riding and easy living.

SENTENCED TO PRISON

BAKER (AP) — George Calder, of Baker, was sentenced to serve two years in prison when he pleaded guilty to a charge of possession of a still which was found in operation ma house on the east side.

STATE BOARD ATTACKED IN LEGISLATURE

Sub-Committee Will Inquire Into Affairs of Emergency Board.

STRAYER SPEAKS FOR ABOLISHMENT

Bill Introduced Today Would Increase Gas Tax One Cent — Deficiency Measure Filed.

SALEM, Jan. 22 (AP) — The long awaited administration utility measure, providing for the abolishment of the public service commission, creation of a one man commission, and granting home rule to cities, will be introduced into the house this afternoon by Representative Arthur W. Lawrence, of Benton county. The bill is the first of the governor's program relating to control of public utilities, and one which is credited as holding up the legislative grind of the 30th session.

SALEM, Jan. 22 (AP)—Criticism piling up against the state emergency board at each legislative session will come to a head at the present session, some members of the two houses expect, because of the personnel of a sub-committee of the ways and means appointed last night to investigate the board.

Attacks on the emergency board were heard at the same time that the public hearing on the Rogue river closing bill was held before a crowded senate chamber and the joint game and fish committee. The two events so far feature the second week of the legislative assembly, though with the expected introduction of power bills, plenty is expected before the weekend adjournment. The sessions of both houses today were short, with several non-conterversial measures on the calendar for final passage.

Name Both Woodward, Strayer

Senators William F. Woodward, of Multnomah county, and W. H. Strayer, of Baker county, the two ways and means committee members who were the most severe in their attacks on the emergency board, were both named on the sub-committee, the former as chairman. With them will serve Representative Homer D. Angell, of Multnomah county, who is chairman of the house wing of the ways and means committee.

The two senators made their attack on the board the previous night when it was discovered that during the last two years the emergency board has allowed deficiency appropriation of more than $500,000 in addition to appropriations made by the legislature of 1929.

Never before has a special committee been named to inquire into the activities of the board. Senator Strayer spoke strongly in favor of abolishing the board. Senator Jay H. Upton of Bend, who is not a member of the ways and means committee, has introduced a bill that would limit the board's emergency allowances to $100,000.

All of the sub-committees that are to visit state and state-aided private

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EXPLOSION OF GASES FATAL TO L. A. WOMAN

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 22 (AP)—Mrs. Maude Bronton, 43, is dead today as the result of one of the most unusual accidents on record in surgery, termed by medical authorities an explosion of anaesthetic gases in her lungs.

The woman was being given an anaesthetic preparatory to undergoing an abdominal operation in a local hospital. Oxygen and ether had already been administered and the patient was semi-conscious, when Dr. C. E. Warner, surgeon, applied a cone of nitrous oxide.

Suddenly the saturated cone became ignited from an electric spark of static origin. Mrs. Branton inhaled flaming gas and an explosion resulted in her lungs, which were ruptured, causing instant death. Dr. B. A. Wilkes, superintendent of the hospital reported.

An inquest will be held today by Coroner Frank Nance, at which medican authorities, attracted by the unusual case, are expected to be present.

A somewhat similar case was reported in Chicago two years ago, medical authorities said.

Railroad Officials Gather For Battle

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Jan. 22 (AP) —Railroad officials of both the Great Northern and Southern Pacific lines were gathering here today for another battle over right of way.

A joint meeting of the Oregon public service commission and the California railway commission will be held tomorrow to consider the amended application of the Great Northern to build south from Klamath Falls.

Wheat Today

CHICAGO, Jan. 22 (AP) — Stop-loss selling developed in corn late today, and the market dropped to almost 2 cents under early top figures. Wheat also declined, influenced by corn weakness. Forecasts that Argentina would have 140,000,000 bushels more corn to export this season than the average had a bearish effect. Argentine corn exports for the last week were 7,283,000 bushels, against 2,041,000 a year ago.

Corn closed unsettled ⅞@1¼ cents below yesterday's finish, wheat ⅝ off to ¼ up, oats ⅛@⅜ down and provisions unchanged to 10 cents decline.