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La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER
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VOLUME XXIX — MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS AND A. B. C. — LA GRANDE, OREGON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1931 — EASTERN OREGON'S LEADING NEWSPAPER — NUMBER 157

CITY AUDIT COMPLETED BY MR. HAM

Report Last Night Shows Shortage in Treasury at $112,202.02.

MRS. FOWLER HELD IN COUNTY JAIL

Accountants Make Certain Recommendations —Recall Their Previous Recommendations.

The report of Conda J. Ham, following his audit this month of the city books, was made public last night at a meeting of city commissioners and several local citizens.

The audit stated the amount of missing funds to be $112,202.02, which was $50 less than first estimates. An adjustment was made in the treasurer's cash book for payment in January, 1930, of seven coupons of $25 each, a total of $175, for which she credited herself only $125.

Mrs. Emma Fowler, former treasurer, was placed under arrest at Pendleton the afternoon of Feb. 3, and has been in the county jail since that time charged with larceny of public money. Tomorrow at 10 a. m. Judge Hall S. Lusk is to preside at arguments to be presented concerning a request by the defense attorneys, Green and Hess, for a change of venue. Previously this week Mrs. Fowler plead "not guilty."

The report of the auditor, Mr. Ham, as it applies to the shortage, follows:

"The amount unaccounted for, $112,202.02, is made up as follows:

"Shrinkage in securities on hand at the time of cash verification for Dec. 31, 1929, $59,407.10;

"Failure to deposit all monies received from Jan. 1, 1930 to Jan. 31, 1931 by $13,435.50, and

"Writing of checks on the depository banks for $39,359.42 more during the period subsequent to Jan. 1, 1930 than was recorded on the disbursement side of the cash book or evidenced by cancelled warrants, bonds of interest coupons.

"At the time of our 1929 audit we verified cash and severely criticized the treasurer for the large amount of securities she appeared to be continually carrying. According to her books in the last six years the cash balances had run as high as $107,814.81 at the end of 1926 and $258,421.77 on Dec. 31, 1925. It was explained by her, as we pointed out in our report for 1929, that she kept each improvement district separate in her accounting for cash and could not retire a bond until there was money enough in any particular district to purchase a $500 bond. We called attention in our report to the dangers and costliness of such accounting and strongly recommended to the commission that the Bancroft act be followed and the treasurer be ordered to change her accounting in conformity thereto. This act provides for only two funds, one to be called the 'Improvement Bond Sinking Fund,' and account for all money paid on account of principal, and the other to be called the 'Improvement Bond Interest Fund' and handle all interest money. We thought that the policy should be enforced to call and cancel all the improvement bonds possible at each interest date and at all times keep the Bancroft money to a minimum, often below $100, paying it out as rapidly as possible to retire bonds. That recommendation was never followed.

"We then recommended that the bond of the treasurer be raised to $50,000 or more, to always be greater than any possible amount which might be unaccounted for. With a chance in accounting for cash we felt it would always be possible to keep the cash balance at or under

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Only Taxpayers Of City To Make Up Shortage In City

In an Associated Press story carried in the Observer of Feb. 21, and carried elsewhere over the state of Oregon, A. B. Cherry, city manager, was quoted as saying: "The entire sum taken by Mrs. Fowler, will, of course, ultimately have to be made up by the taxpayers of Union county."

This statement was in error in that the missing funds will have to be made up only by taxpayers within the city limits of La Grande.

County Taxpayers To Meet Tonight

An important meeting of all the taxpayers of La Grande and Union county is to be held at the city hall at La Grande tonight at 7:30 o'clock for the purpose of discussing tax matters of interest to all citizens of Union county. It is the desire of the people interested in this meeting that all tax payers do not fail to be present at this meeting as it is of vital interest to each and every tax payer of not only La Grande but the whole of Union county.

WEATHER FORECAST

OREGON: Fair tonight and Saturday but cloudy in the northwest portion; no change in temperature. Moderate west, becoming south winds on the coast.

WEATHER TODAY

7:30 a. m.—30 above.
Minimum: 22 above.
Condition: cloudy.

WEATHER YESTERDAY

Maximum 37, minimum 30 above.
Condition: cloudy, snow one half inch, moisture .08 of inch.

WEATHER FEB. 27, 1930

Maximum 36, minimum 24 above.
Condition: cloudy.

Wallowa, Cove Win In Opening Round of Play

Imbler Nosed Out 31 to 32 and La Grande is Defeated by Wallowa Quintet 30 to 16.

Cove and Wallowa won the opening games of the sub-district tournament played in the Recreational hall here this morning, and will meet at 4:30 o'clock this afternoon in the second round. Imbler, nosed out by one point, and La Grande, loser to Wallowa, will play at 3:30 this afternoon. The loser of the La Grande-Imbler game will be the first team eliminated from play.

The Cove-Imbler game was a hair-raiser, Cove winning 32 to 31, and a split-second after the gun sounded, an Imbler man caged a goal. The referee did not allow the shot, but for a few moments the crowd was in confusion, awaiting official announcement of the score.

Tigers Lose in Last Half.

Wallowa, although held to an 11-11 tie in the first half by the Tigers, cut loose with a spurt in the final two periods that gave them a 30 to 16 win.

This afternoon at 1:30 o'clock Elgin is playing Joseph and at 2:30 o'clock North Powder is scheduled to meet Enterprise. Two games will be played tonight, at 8 and 9 o'clock.

Tomorrow's schedule includes games at 2:30 and 3:30 p. m. and games at 8 and 9 o'clock, the latter game to settle the championship of the tournament between the two undefeated quintets left in the running.

Union to Send Delegation.

A large crowd for a morning program was on hand, including a delegation from Union. C. L. Cadwell, mayor of Union, and Irvin Hess, of the commercial club, said that arrangements were being made for Union, which has no team in the sub-district tournament, to send a crowd of 35 to 40 people to La Grande this evening. Other chambers of com-

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New York Papers Are Combined In One Issue Today

NEW YORK, Feb. 27 (AP)—The combined New York Telegram, Evening World and Morning World made its first appearance today.

The first edition, on the streets early this forenoon, carried the mastheads of all three newspapers, thus signalizing the end of the World newspapers as separately conducted by Joseph Pulitzer and his heirs for almost half a century and sold to the Scripps-Howard interests shortly after midnight.

The World-Telegram carried Associated Press dispatches and carried many of the departments that appeared in the old World. These include certain comics, and the articles of some of the World special writers.

The old Telegram ran about 32 pages. The first edition of the World-Telegram had 44.

The final edition of the Morning World was bringing a premium this morning. Newsstand operators boost-

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Observer Carriers Have Queer Banquet

The losers in the Observer carrier-boy contest lost by only one point but it was enough to decide whom should feast on chicken and whom on bread and beans. While the winners sat on one side of the table at the banquet at the La Grande hotel last night with drum sticks and gizzards piled high amid mountains of potatoes and vegetables, the losers sat directly opposite with their plates of bread and beans.

The losers were not downhearted, however, and ate just as much and felt just as satisfied as the winners afterwards, they said.

Walter Dahl, who visited in Chicago last summer, and who investigated the newspaper carrier situation spoke to the boys about the advantage which they have over newspaper boys in that city. Howard Pidcock spoke also.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark Paddock acted as host and hostess for the boys. Mr. Paddock is circulation manager of the Observer.

Following the banquet the boys received tickets to the motion pictures.

The winners, who had a total of 75 points were Howard Pidcock, Jean Pidcock, Marion Bray, Johnson, George Denny, Clifford Briggs, Weldon Fawell, Fred Beaman, Thomas Cook, Lawrence Roberts, Walter Dahl. Losers, with a total of 74 points, were George Anderson, Lavon Price, Charles Young, John Wilwers, Gilbert Stein, Robert McMillan, Lynn Gayman, Harold Borine, William Young, Robert Lockwood, Arlyn Beck.

Trapshooters Start Competition Sunday

To encourage trapshooting among the members of the La Grande Gun club, a trophy has been donated by Dr. W. T. Phy, of Hot Lake. Competition will start Sunday and any member of the club is eligible with no extra charge to shooters.

A participant may shoot one 25 bird event on each shooting day, the only requirements being that he notify the secretary, Angus McAllister, that he is shooting on the trophy before starting the event. The first leg on the trophy was won by Roy Forrester last year.

The club will put five shooting coats again this year for high average during the February shoot. The winners last year were Chase Bohnenkamp, Roy Forrester, John R. Garity, Joss Breshears, and A. J. Stange. The coats will be awarded these men next Sunday.

Shooting is from 9 to 1:30 o'clock on Sunday.

Co-Ed Plows Snow

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Marion Ryan, University of Utah co-ed, earned her way through school this winter by driving a horse-drawn snow plow over the sidewalks.

FIRST NIGHT SESSION OF SENATE HELD

Makes Effort to Clean up its Constantly Growing Calendar.

APPROPRIATION BILLS PASSED

Consider no Major Bills But Dispose of Large Number of Measures From House.

SALEM, Feb. 27 (AP) — The first night session of the 36th legislature was held by the senate last night in an effort to delve further into its calendar which has been added to while members have disposed of several major issues with much of their time taken up with debate. No major bills were considered at the night term, the senate however disposing of a large number of house measures and several appropriation bills.

Governor Julius L. Meier's program held sway in the legislature during yesterday, and all proposals were passed by safe majorities. Following the approval of the state constabulary bill by the senate during the morning, and later endorsement of the one-man utilities commissioner act, the house approved the department of agriculture bill with but seven negative votes. All were administration bills, and all but the state constabulary now go to the governor for his signature. The house has yet to pass the police system proposal.

The tunnel commission bill, butter grades and standards, and 35 other proposals are on the house calendar for today, while the senate will again attempt to dispose of nearly a hundred bills awaiting action.

Salary increase measures will stand no chance in the governor's office, it was again emphasized late yesterday when Meier vetoed his third salary increase bill. This was for the increase in salaries of Washington county officers. The governor also vetoed senate bill 8, which relates to applications by the poor to county courts for relief. He opposed additional obstacles being placed before those seeking assistance.

Passage of the non-partisan judiciary bill, sponsored by the state bar association and introduced in the senate by Senator James W. Crawford, and the election bill changing the dates of the primary elections from May to August on alternate election years were the outstanding business of the senate following the administration program.

Neither of the measures caused much discussion. The non-partisan judiciary measure has been amended so that in the general election the

(Continued on Page Four)

Lawyer Held for Questioning In Strangling Case

NEW YORK, Feb. 27 (AP)—Named in her diary as persons she feared, her own lawyer and an ex-convict were held for questioning today in the strangling of Vivian Gordon.

John A. Radeloff, a Brooklyn attorney, and Sam Cohen, alias Charles Harris, were taken into custory yesterday and examined today as to their associations with her. An unnamed woman friend of Miss Gordon also was questioned and released.

One inscription in the diary, Police Commissioner Edward P. Mulrooney said, read as follows:

"I fear but one man, and he is Radeloff, my lawyer, who, if he wanted, could get Cohen and a couple of his henchmen to do away with me."

Radeloff told the commissioner that Miss Gordon informed him several weeks ago that she had made an appointment to testify concerning alleged graft on the part of the vice squad and that he had advised her not to.

"I will. I'm going to give McLaughlin the needle," she was quoted by him as saying.

Commissioner Mulrooney immediately sent for Patrolman Andrew B. McLaughlin, who arrested Miss Gordon on a charge of immorality in 1923, and was instrumental in sending her to Bedford reformatory, but discovered that he had left on a five day vacation Monday, presumably for Bermuda.

Miss Gordon's body was found in Van Cortlandt park yesterday with a length of a clothesline wound about her neck. It was six days after the date she failed to appear as a volunteer witness in the magistrate's courts inquiry.

ARMORY BILL PASSES THE HOUSE TODAY

$40,000 Appropriation For La Grande Armory is Approved.

38 FAVOR WHILE 21 ARE OPPOSED

Motion For Amendment Which Would Have Nullified the Appropriation Fails to Pass.

SALEM, Feb. 27 (AP) — The house of representatives at noon today passed the measure appropriating $40,000 for the construction of an armory at La Grande, by a vote of 38 to 21, with one member absent. The vote followed a debate on the issue, with Representatives I. U. Temple, Morton Tompkins and Arthur McPhillips opposing. In addition to the Union county delegation P. O. Delap and Homer D. Angell, urged the appropriation.

A motion by Emmett Howard of Lane county to amend the bill to make the funds available for the armory only if there is money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, was lost. Such a motion, it was explained, was the equivalent to defeating the appropriation. Howard, however, voted for the bill.

Angell of the ways and means committee, in explaining the endorsement of the armory at La Grande, while rejecting three other such bills introduced by Klamath Falls, Astoria and St. Helens representatives, said the appropriating of funds for one was in line with the state policy of constructing one or two every two years in order to aid the federal government in training the youth, and further stated that the federal government returns to the counties large sums of its military appropriations. He stated that nearly a million dollars has been returned to the state by the federal government.

Those voting for the bill were: Allen, Anderson, Andrews, Angell, Bronaugh, Chindgren, Chinnock, Day, Delap, Deuel, Eckley, Fisher, Glass, Hamilton, Hellberg, Hill, Howard, Johnson, Knapp, Lawrence, Lee, Lewis, Manning, McAllister, McCornack, McCourt, McGraw, Mott, Nash, Schaupp, Mrs. Smith, Snell, Stockdale, Swift, Taylor, Wells Yates and Lonergan.

Those opposed were Gill, Gordon, Gouley, Janneson, Keasey, MacPherson, McPhillips, Nichols, Norton, Oxman, Peters, Proctor, J. H. E. Scott, J. N. Scott, Smith, Stewart, Temple, Thornburgh, Tompkins, Weatherford and Winslow.

Absent—Bynon.

Wealthy Widow Near Death From Strange Attack

HAVERHILL, Mass., Feb. 26 (AP) — While Mrs. Clara D. Ellis, wealthy Haverhill widow, hovered between life and death in the Benson hospital, police were seeking to establish the identity of the person who beat her brutally with a hammer some time Wednesday night.

Mrs. Ellis, widow of John D. Ellis, prominent shoe manufacturer, was found unconscious on her bed by a maid. There were two wounds in her head, inflicted, police believe, with a hammer which was found, blood stained, in the rear of Mrs. Ellis's garage.

Inspectors investigating the assault found telephone wires cut inside the house, indicating they believed, that the attack was carefully planned. A quantity of valuable silver, of which Mrs. Ellis is connoisseur, was undisturbed and there was other evidence, police said, to indicate that the motive was other than robbery.

Lie Detector Has Desired Effects

CHICAGO, Feb. 27 (AP) — There's power in the lie detector.

The other day Prof. Rodney Mott of the University of Chicago said to his class:

"I will give you just 24 hours to return to the library five valuable books on constitutional law, taken obviously by some of you. If the return is not made within the time specified, I shall have each of you subjected to a test of the lie detector."

Yesterday the five books were back where they belonged. So, too, were five others missing from the previous semester.

Largest Boy Scout Banquet And Court of Honor Highly Successful

The largest court of honor ever held in La Grande was held at the largest annual Boy Scout banquet at 6:30 last evening in the basement of the Methodist church when 150 scouts and parents gathered to celebrate the close of the 21st anniversary week.

Henry Hess was the main speaker of the evening describing his observations of scouting as an outsider and the value which he puts on scout work. Personal talks about the benefits of scouting were given by Woodrow Damerell, troop 3, of the Methodist church; Glenn Victor, troop 4, Greenwood; Willard Stitt, troop 13, L. D. S. church; Robert Long, troop 14, Presbyterian church, and Carl Johnson, troop 15, Christian church.

A. W. Nelson was toastmaster for the banquet and a very excellent program was presented including an instrumental solo, by Buddy Reynolds; a violin due by the Misses Cooper, accompanied by Barbara Hiatt.

Elmo Stevenson introduced the scoutmasters and leaders of the troops and the council members with an explanation of what each is doing after which two minute stunts were presented by each of the five troops, one of which was on scoutcraft, and the others were comic.

The court of honor followed the dinner, with F. L. Meyers presiding. Those to receive tenderfoot badges were J. Brock, Don Burges, A. Clegg, A. Driskell, W. Driskell, R. Estes, W. Johnson, R. Keffer, W. Mason, R. McKelland, H. Stoddard. These were awarded by C. H. Reynolds.

Second class badges were awarded by George Birnie to E. Binford, B. Bohnenkamp, C. Matlock, C. Walden, Ray McRoberts, N. Clark, G. Laird, P. Cook.

Harvey Carter presented first class badges to B. Gunn, F. Gehring, A. Stitt, E. Rogers, J. McClay.

Second class merit badges went to E. Binford, B. Gunn, G. Victor, C.

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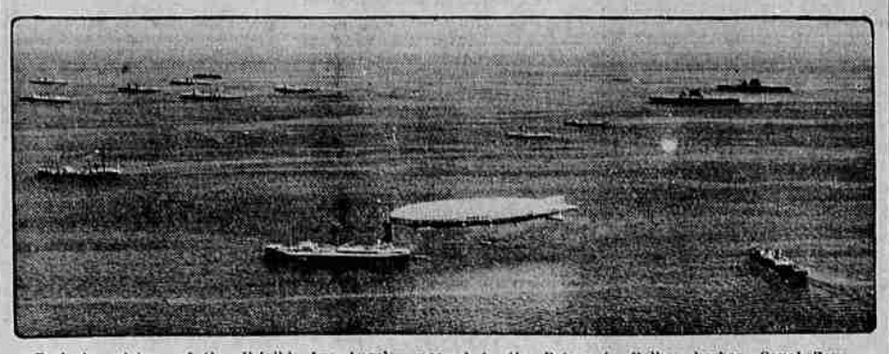
U. S. FLEET, DIRIGIBLE DEFEND CANAL ZONE



Exclusive picture of the dirigible Los Angeles moored to the Patoca in Balboa harbor, Canal Zone, just before the fleet took off to repel the "attacking" Pacific fleet. Aircraft carriers Lexington and Saratoga in right background, cruisers at the left.

Electrocute Six Negroes In S. C. State Pen Today

COLUMBIA, S. C., Feb. 27 (AP)—Six negroes were electrocuted in the South Carolina penitentiary early today for the murder of two Lexington county white men.

They went to their deaths calmly and with prayers on their lips.

Almost two hours were required for the executions, each of which was watched by 16 persons in addition to newspaper men, physicians and penitentiary officials.

Tillman Poozer died as the confessed murderer of C. D. Mills, Cayce night watchman. The motive was robbery.

The other five, Robert "Greasy" Eldredge, Lindsey Cantrell, alias John Ackwright, James "Snoow" Hickman, George Bird and Ernest "Tee" Thomason were convicted of the murder of B. W. Hendrix, Lexington county merchant, who was shot in an attempted holdup. Four of the five were arrested in Blufield, W. Va., where they had fled.

Electrocution of six men at one time set a record for South Carolina, the greatest number previously being five, in 1916.

Four women were admitted as spectators.

One of them was the widow of Hendrix. She showed no emotion as Cantrell, her husband's slayer, died.

Two others, daughters of Mills, saw their father's slayer electrocuted. They were Mrs. D. J. Vargeson and Mrs. E. E. Nason.

The fourth woman was Mrs. Gray Raines of Hartsville, who saw George Bird executed.

Colonel James Pearman, superintendent of the prison, said he had refused a request of Bird's mother that she be allowed to see her son die.

La Grande School Children Flock To See Operetta

What a gala time the school children of La Grande had Thursday! Early in the afternoon they flocked to the auditorium of the Eastern Oregon Normal to see the pupils of the J. H. Ackerman Training school present the operetta, "Hansel and Gretel." It will be given again tonight at 8 o'clock in the Normal school auditorium for adults.

There, on the stage, witches pranced and caroused, sandmen strewed sleep-producing pellets, dewmen awakened slumbering mortals and cookie children were released from a spell of evil enchantment.

The play opens with Hansel, played by Keith Patten, and Gretel, Jean Inlow, making brooms and knitting while their parents are away in search of food. The mother, portrayed by Marian Christensen, returns suddenly and interrupts their hilarity. She, angrily, sends them into the forest to gather berries. When the father, played by Carl Butterfield, returns he tells of the wicked witch who lives in the forest. Thus the opening for the witch scenes in the forest is supplied.

The parts of Hansel and Gretel in the second act are taken by Frederic Lewis and Nancy Lee Lindsay. They become lost in the woods while searching for berries and after being very much frightened are lulled to sleep by the sandmen. The first graders of the Training school make charming sandmen.

One of the most impressive scenes of the operetta is the angel pantomime which closes act II. The lighting of this particular scene and the effective costuming of the angels produces a feeling of awe, beauty and spirituality.

In the third and final act, the seventh graders are cast for the parts. Eugene Shultz, as Hansel, and Winni-

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Missing 3 Days, Edna May Cooper Not Yet Located

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 27 (AP)—Three theories as to the whereabouts of Edna May Cooper, 26, aviatrix and former film actress, reported missing since Tuesday, were advanced today.

Melvin Wickman, tram car operator, who said he attended a flying school where Miss Cooper was taking lessons, reported to police that she had asked him the way to Santa Monica canyon Tuesday. She was walking, he said, and carried a traveling bag.

Mrs. Mary Cooper, commenting on the report, said her daughter had been worried over the financial outcome of the endurance flight early in January in which she and Bobbie Trout set a world endurance refueling record for women of 122 hours, 50 minutes. Mrs. Cooper said she may have gone to a rest home or hospital.

Miss Trout said Miss Cooper had often spoken to her of a banker admirer who had rented the upper floor of the Cooper home for a time last year and intimated she might marry him. Miss Trout suggested they may have eloped. Mrs. Cooper however, refused to consider this possibility.

RAILWAY BUILDER DIES IN PORTLAND

Samuel Hill, 74, "Friend of Kings," Succumbs to Intestinal Flu.

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 27 (AP) — Oregonians today will pay their final tributes to the memory of Samuel Hill, 74, internationally known traveller and "friend of kings," who died here last night.

Hill, who had won fame as a builder of railroads and highways and as a railroad executive, was stricken with intestinal influenza here February 9 while he was on his way to Salem to discuss good roads before the Oregon state legislature.

An operation was performed upon him last week but he failed to respond to treatment. His son, James Nathan Hill, called from Washington, D. C., was with his father when death came. Edgar N. Hill, Seattle, a cousin of the deceased, and W. F. Turner, president of the Spokane, Portland & Seattle railroad also were present.

Funeral in Seattle.

Hill's body will lie in state here today. Funeral services and cremation will be in Seattle. The ashes will be placed in an urn and taken to Maryhill, a lonely castle standing on a Washington cliff high above the Columbia river.

While Queen Marie of Rumania was in the United States several years ago Hill entertained her and her party and she dedicated the Rumanian room of Maryhill. Several years before Hill was host for the Marshal Joffre's national tour.

Hill's services to allied countries during the World war, in building and directing railroads, won him decorations from France, Belgium, Japan and Rumania.

The Canadian government and the United States senate gave Hill special votes of thanks for promoting the "peace portal," in honor of 100 years of peace between the two countries.

Supported Highway Plans.

Hill was a son-in-law of the late James Hill, pioneer builder of railroads, and won fame in his own right as a railway executive. In recent years he devoted much of his time toward urging an improved highway system for the country, and supported legislation toward that end.

He was a native of North Carolina but spent most of his life in the middle west and west. On the Pacific coast he was known principally for his efforts in bringing about construction of the Columbia River highway and the Pacific highway.

SALEM, Feb. 27 (AP)—In recognition of the service of Samuel Hill to the state of Oregon, particularly as a good roads advocate, the state senate last night voted that a special committee be appointed to draft appropriate resolutions relative to his death. These will be signed by President Willard L. Marks of the senate, Speaker of the House Frank J. Lonergan and Governor Julius L. Meier. The senate committee to prepare the resolutions is Senators Joe E. Dunne, Colon R. Eberhard and Fred E. Kiddle. The action was taken on motion of Senator Dunne, Colon R. Eberhard and Fred E. Kiddle. The action was taken on motion of Sena-

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NEW BUSINESS IN SAWMILLS OVER OUTPUT

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 27 (AP) — Current new business reported by 224 identical mills for the week ending Feb. 21 was 14.51 per cent over production and shipments were 7.1 per cent above production the West Coast Lumbermen's association announced here today. A total of 345 mills operated at 40.86 per cent of capacity as compared to 66.82 per cent for the same week last year.

Average for the last three months of 1930 was 40 per cent. During the preceding week, these mills operated at 38.82 per cent of capacity. New rail trade in the past week about equalled the volume for the previous week, domestic cargo decreased about 500,000 feet, the export market gained about 8,000,000 feet and local trade declined about a million feet.

In the past year, orders have averaged about 14 per cent over production due to low levels of cutting and fairly regular although low volume buying. The tendency of inventories is downward while unfilled orders are holding at about the equivalent of four weeks production at current levels.

Finnish Paper Will Suspend Publication

ASTORIA, Feb. 27 (AP)—Its editor-in-chief and four other employers under arrest, the Finnish language daily newspaper Toveri will suspend publication tomorrow, according to an announcement today.

Five employes and one former employe were recently arrested by immigration authorities, charged with being connected with the communist party.

Subscribers of the paper will receive copies of Tyomies, a Finnish daily published at Superior, Wisc

Hurricane Takes Terrific Toll In Fiji Islands

By Alport Barker

SUVA, Fiji Islands, Feb. 27 (AP)—With at least 250, including five Europeans, dead, this South Sea island group turned today to the task of aiding the hundreds of injured and thousands left homeless by a terrific hurricane which raged for more than 24 hours last Saturday and Sunday.

Striking virtually without warning, the hurricane started at noon Saturday. It blew itself out late Sunday afternoon and since then Suva and vicinity has been practically isolated from the rest of the world. The extent of damage was not learned here until today, when communications were partially restored.

Authorities depended greatly even today, however, on native couriers for information. One was dispatched to the Ba district He swam the swollen Ba river and ran the forty miles to Ba and return in 48 hours. He found at least eighty dead and said at one place there were 1200 refugees awaiting food and shelter.

Unconfirmed dispatches from the Sigatoka district said 100 were drowned by floods resulting from torrential rains which accompanied the terrific winds. The Lautoka district reported seventeen identified dead and twenty-three, including four Europeans, missing. Four of these were Europeans, two of them women. Dispatches said they were believed to have been killed or drowned.

Several persons were dead at Rewa, which, although it escaped the high winds, experienced severe floods. Loss of livestock at Rewa was declared to have hit the economy hard.

Authorities feared outbreaks of disease due to lack of sanitation throughout the stricken area.

A cargo of rice, which arrived here today on the steamer Wairuna, was immediately unloaded and rushed into the hurricane devastated areas.

During the height of the storm a train on the Ba-Lautoka railway was blown off the tracks, killing one person and injuring many, Lautoka dispatches said. A European was electrocuted.

The hurricans was precluded by leaden skies and a sudden dropping of the barometer. Otherwise there was no warning and the natives were caught practically unprepared.

Most of the victims were native Fijians or East Indians.

Judge Fee, Of Pendleton, Gets Federal Bench

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (AP)—President Hoover nominated James Alger Fee to be United States judge for the district of Oregon.

Alger Fee has been circuit judge in Oregon since 1927. He is 42 years old and is a resident of Pendleton, Ore. He received his law degree from Columbia university in 1914.

FEE IN PORTLAND

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 27 (AP) —Circuit Judge James Alger Fee, informed here yesterday by the Associated Press of his nomination by President Hoover to the Oregon federal bench, said he was "sincerely appreciative" of the support of his friends in the sixth judicial district of Oregon, and realized at the same time the "great responsibilities" of the office.

Judge Fee was here from Pendleton on business.

In event of confirmation of the nomination, he said, he will endeavor to move to Portland at the earliest possible time to be able to assist in clearing the crowded docket, resulting from the sudden death last Jan. 7 of Judge Robert Sharp Bean, whom he succeeds.

Judge Fee's circuit court term expires in 1935. He was appointed to the circuit bench in 1927 by the late Governor Patterson, and previously had practiced law in Pendleton for years.

He was born in 1888.

JUDGE OF SIXTH DISTRICT

PENDLETON, Ore., Feb. 27 (AP) — Judge James Alger Fee of Pendleton, nominated by Present Hoover to be district federal judge of Oregon, is circuit judge of the 6th judicial district of Oregon. His term expires in 1935.

Judge Fee will succeed Federal Judge Robert Sharp Bean of Portland, who died last Jan. 7.

Other members of the Oregon federal bench are Judges John McNary and W. C. Gilbert.

Three Appointed to Consider Judge Fee

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 27 (AP)—The senate judiciary committee today appointed a sub-committee of three to consider the nomination of Circuit Judge James Alger Fee of Pendleton, Oregon, who yesterday was nominated by President Hoover to be federal judge of Oregon.

The members of the sub-committee are Senators Steiwer of Oregon, whose home is in Pendleton; Hastings of Delaware, both Republicans, and Ashurst of Arizona, a Democrat.

VETS LOAN BILL PASSED OVER VETO

Senate Debates Hoover Veto Before Crowded Galleries Today.

76 VOTES FAVOR OVERRIDING VETO

Several Changes Make Little Difference in Total Effect of the Voting.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (AP) — The veterans loan bill was enacted into law today over the veto of President Hoover.

The senate vote was 76 to 17.

Sixteen Republicans and one Democrat voted to sustain the veto.

Thirty-six Republicans refused to support Mr. Hoover's veto and joined in passing the measure.

Veterans Administrator Hines was at the White House when the senate acted. As he left, he said the bureau could make the first loan under the bill within five minutes.

At the veterans bureau some ex-soldiers were in line to apply hours before the vote.

Although General Hines has not given an official opinion on the question, it was said at his office the "accepted opinion" was that the certificates would have to be two years old before being eligible for loans, as under regulations governing loans heretofore. This would effect numbers of holders.

Word of the new law went forth quickly to the 54 regional offices of the bureau so applications could be accepted at once.

Checks for the loans will be mailed as rapidly as possible, with the first expected to be on their way tonight or tomorrow to applicants whose requests for loans were mailed in. After the rush starts, however, checks will be issued from within ten to twenty days of receipt of loan requests.

The act authorizes World war veterans to borrow up to half the face value of their adjusted compensation—an estimated average of $500 being made available to each of the 3,408,000 ex-service men who hold the insurance.

Senator Vandenberg, one of the administration stalwarts, opened the debate with a plea to disregard the veto. He dissented with the president "with the greatest reluctance," but argued that "the facts are the same as when the senate voted 72 to 12 to pass this legislation."

"This bill is a sane solution to the perplexing question which some have

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Committee Approves Tax on Signboards

SALEM, Feb. 27 (AP)—In a short meeting following a night senate session the ways and means committee last night gave its approval to Senator B. W. Johnson's bill for a tax on signboard advertising. His bill to tax malt was tabled.

The committee voted $2000 for Oregon's participation in the George Washington 200th birth anniversary in 1932. With the exception of the appropriation of money the committee approved a bill for Oregon participation in the Chicago century of progress celebration.

Capone Convicted Of Court Contempt

CHACAGO, Feb. 27 (AP)—Al Capone was convicted of contempt in federal court today and sentenced to six months in the county jail.

Judge Wilkerson in announcing his decision declared it was evident the affadivit which attempted to show Capone was ill and in bed when he was wanted by the government two years ago, was "glaringly false."

The effect of the affidavit, the judge declared, was to "hamper the administration of justice," and that "this court is not to be tampered with."

California's Gas War Is Continuing

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 27 (AP) — Fifteen cents a gallon gasoline loomed in California today as the most recent so called "gas war" continued between independents and major oil concerns.

Service station operators pumped motor fuel for 16 cents a gallon yesterday and the wholesale prices of independents dropped to 14 cents, one cent under the new wholesale price announced by major companies.

The Standard Oil company reiterated its stand to meet competition of cut price gasoline. Predictions were freely made large companies would shave prices two cents more before the end of the week.

Wheat Today

CHICAGO, Feb. 27 (AP) — With indications that European markets were following rather than leading wheat price developments on this side of the Atlantic, wheat showed a rallying tendency late today. Announcement that Kansas City and Chicago banks were asking more margins on wheat loans had little market effect, the rate changes being regarded as a seasonal preparatory move to a new crop basis. Corn was under more selling pressure than wheat, a circumstance ascribed to other terminals offering cash to Chicago at the widest discount of this season.

Wheat closed firm, unchanged to ¼ cent higher, corn at ¾ decline to ¼ advance, oats ¼@¾ off, and provisions unchanged to a rise of 10 cents.