CITY EDITION
Full Associated Press Leased Wire Service
10 PAGES TODAY

La Grande Evening Observer

THE WEATHER
SEE LOWER LEFT HAND CORNER OF THIS PAGE.

VOLUME XXIX — MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS AND A. B. C. — LA GRANDE, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 1931 — EASTERN OREGON'S LEADING NEWSPAPER — NUMBER 167

NAVAL PACT TERMS TODAY MADE PUBLIC

Agreement Between Great Britain, France, and Italy Published.

FRANCE AND ITALY HOLD STATUS QUO

Accept All Provisions of Part Three of the London Naval Treaty Formerly Refused.

By Frank H. King

LONDON, March 11 (AP)—The terms of the naval agreement between Great Britain, France and Italy covering capital ships, aircraft carriers, cruisers and submarines, and bringing France and Italy into harmony with the London naval treaty, were issued today.

They were included in a memorandum prepared by Arthur Henderson, foreign secretary, and A. V. Alexander, first lord of the admiralty, for parliament. An annex to the memorandum, giving the "bases of agreement," was understood to be virtually the text of the past which smooths out the troubled European naval sitpation.

After achieving agreement at Paris and Rome the British delegates returned to London so the terms could be submitted to the United States, Japan and the British dominions.

The essence of the Franco-Italian agreement is maintenance of the status quo in tonnage ratios, France retaining an estimated superiority of 150,000 tons.

Under the new accord France and Italy accept all provisions of part three of the London naval treaty which they declined to approve last spring.

The building provisions give both France and Italy the right to complete before December 1936, two capital ships whose displacement shall not exceed 23,333 tons and whose gun caliber shall not exceed 12 inches.

Each nation may build 34,000 tons of aircraft carriers.

These two categories, capital ships and aircraft carriers, are regulated by the Washington treaty.

As for vessels whose tonnage is regulated by the London treaty, the Henderson memorandum says that neither France nor Italy will build any more submarines other than for completion of their 1930 programs and for replacement of over-age tonnage.

As regards cruisers, France and Italy agree that after completion of the 1930 class they will build no more big cruisers—those carrying armament larger than six inch guns. This clause is effective during the life of the present agreement.

In the small cruiser category the two nations agree that tonnage of new construction to be completed shall not exceed the tonnage which is replaceable in this category before December 31, 1936.

Seven Hurt In Mad Rush to See Indian Leader

AHMADABAD, India, March 11 (AP)—Two women received fractures of the skull, five others were almost trampled to death, and fifty fainted today in a mad rush to see Mahatma Gandhi.

Utterly exhausted by the gruelling ordeal to which welcoming crowds have submitted him, Mahatma Gandhi, nationalist leader, had to spend most of today in bed.

The tremendous strain to which he has been subjected by the intense heat, the blinding dust, and the unceasing tumult was said to have brought on a slight fever.

At one point in his triumphal trip from New Delhi here, where he had not been seen for more than a year, the noise of the mobs who came to greet him become so great that Gandhi stuffed his ears with cotton. Ironically enough it was on his weekly day of silence.

During the public outpouring to see him yesterday he once pleaded with the crowd, "if you love me do not crush me to death."

Taylor Heads John Day Valley Group

THE DALLES, Ore., March 11 (AP)—Ben Taylor of Mitchell was elected president of the John Day Valley Development association at its meeting here last night for the purpose of urging the return to the state highway map of the Mitchell-Antelope 40-mile shortcut highway.

Delegations of business men from both southern and northern parts attended the meeting. The road, they say, would reduce the distance from Mitchell and all points south, to the mid-Columbia section and Portland by approximately 70 miles. The road was a part of the state highway program in 1920 but action on the program was postponed.

WEATHER FORECAST

Oregon: Rain tonight and Thursday, snows in the mountain; cooler in the west portion tonight. Strong south, becoming west winds offshore.

WEATHER TODAY

7:30 a. m.—44 above.
Minimum: 38 above.
Condition: cloudy.

WEATHER YESTERDAY

Maximum 52, minimum 34 above.
Condition: cloudy; rain .05 inch.

WEATHER MAR. 11, 1930.

Maximum 68, minimum 33 above.
Condition: clear.

Accuse Pantages And 3 Others In 'Girl Mart' Case

Theatre Magnate Now in Mexico Says it is Dirt Dug Up By His Enemies.

SAN DIEGO, March 11 (AP)—Arraignment of Alexander Pantages, millionaire showman, and John P. Mills, San Diego and Los Angeles realty dealer, was made today before Justice Arthur L. Mundo, on charges of complicity in patronage of the so-called Hollywood "girl bazaar." Pantages was released on $15,000 bail and Mills was released on $10,000 bail.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., March 11 (AP)—Alexander Pantages, multi-millionaire theater owner at liberty under $100,000 bond pending decision on an appeal of his conviction of assaulting Eunice Pringle, young dancer, at Los Angeles in August, 1929, today stood accused here with three other men and a woman of another crime against a 16-year-old high school girl.

Jesse H. Shreve, prominent San Diego business man, John P. Mills, Los Angeles and San Diego real estate millionaire, William Joblemann, former publicity agent, and Olive Clark were named with Pantages in a complaint charging three separate offenses issued by District Attorney Thomas Whelan yesterday.

The complaint and another, charging Shreve, Mills, Joblemann and the woman with four counts involving a second young girl, was the outgrowth of an investigation of the activities here of an alleged "girl mart" recently exposed in Los Angeles with the arrests of Mills, Jobelmann and Mrs. Day there.

Whelan charged that Jobelmann and Mrs. Day, alleged operators of the "girl market," brought Helen Livingston, 16, here from Los Angeles October 30 last with the assistance of Mills, and that Shreve paid the girl for acting as Pantages' companion at a hotel. The second complaint charged that Lydia Nitto, 16, another purported "market girl" similarly was brought here by Mills, Shreve, Jobelmann and the woman.

Shreve surrendered and posted $25,000 bond in justice court. He denied all the allegations and said that he

(Continued on Page Three)

Wilbur Promptly Awards Contract For Hoover Dam

WASHINGTON, Mar. 11 (AP) — Secretary Wilbur today accepted the $48,890,995 bid of the six companies, incorporated, of San Francisco for building the Hoover dam, power house and appurtenant works at the Boulder canyon project.

Recognition of the company's offer as the low bid was tantamount to awarding the contract and cleared the way for starting construction on one of the greatest peace time engineering feats ever attempted. Estimated cost of the dam, power system and appurtenances, such as the intake towers, spillways and diversion tunnels, totals $109,000,000, but approximately half of this will be supplied by the government in materials.

The specifications require that work be started within 30 days after the builder is given notice to proceed, and the dam must be completed within six and one half years, with a penalty of $3,000 daily for each day longer.

F. T. Crowe, chief of construction operations for the six companies, Inc., a former construction engineer for the reclamation bureau, and his company have notified the department work could be started within a few days.

Handsaker Speaks on Prevention of War

The speaker at the noonday luncheon of the Rotary club today was J. J. Handsaker of Portland, who is associate secretary of the National Council for the Prevention of War. Mr. Handsaker has just recently returned from an extensive trip throughout Europe. His address follows:

"My studies in Europe this past summer lead me to believe that nowhere do the people want war. What they want is safety and security. There are two ideas in the world as to how safety and security can be obtained; one is, that we, the people of any nation, are peaceful but others, the people of any other nation, are warlike and so the way to end war is for us, the peaceful people, to build an army and navy so great that other people will fear us and will be afraid to go to war with us. The other idea is that in a world so small and inter-related, as our is, safety can be had only by cooperating with other nations against a common enemy—war.

"These two ideas clashed at the end of the war. Clemenceau of France held to the first, while Woodrow Wilson believed in the second. They will clash again in December in our national legislature. Those who hold for cooperation will fight for our entrance into the world

(Continued on Page Six)

Four Schools Sure To Meet in Tourney

SALEM, Mar. 11 (AP) — Four schools have already been designated by competitive routes to compete in the annual interscholastic basketball tournament scheduled to being March 18. The tourney will be held in the Willamette gymnasium the last four days of next week.

The four schools definitely named to represent their districts include Salem, Ashland, Baker and Pendleton high schools. Leslie Sparks graduate manager of Willamette university and business manager for the meet, announced. The other schools will be determined during the remainder of this week, when the finish of number of district tournaments will be effected.

Tickets for the tournament have already been placed on sale, Sparks announced, and he stated accommodations have been completed for 600 persons.

STATE GAME COMMISSION BILL VETOED

Thirty Other Bills Are Signed by Governor This Morning.

SIGNS BILL FOR NEW TRAFFIC CODE

Approves Measure For Applying Criminal Libel Laws to Radio Broadcasting.

SALEM, March 11 (AP) — Governor Julius L. Meier today vetoed senate bill 315, known as the Copco measure, which was declared the enabling act for the California and Oregon Power company to make immediate application to the hydro-electric commission for the construction of its $4,500,000 power plant on the Klamath river. The bill would transfer to the new commission the pending applications for the use of waters of Klamath river.

SALEM, March 11 (AP)—The creation of a new state game commission of five members, to be appointed by the governor, four to be recommended by the Oregon game protective association, the Oregon council of the Izaak Walton league, the state grange, and the state forest fire association, was vetoed today by Governor Julius L. Meier.

The governor in vetoing the bill, known as house bill 236, said, "The gamo commission collects and expends a large sum of public money. Its functions affect directly or indirectly, nearly every citizen of the state. Under this bill four of the five members of that commission would be elected by organizations over which the public has no control and which represent but a small per cent of the citizens of the state. Private organizations should never be allowed to select public officials who control the expenditure of public funds."

The rules of the road measure was signed by the governor. This measure providing for a uniform traffic code, eliminates the set speed limit of motor vehicles and provides a new code for traffic on highways, conforming to codes being adopted by most of the states.

Among the 30 bills signed were several appropriation bills, including the budget of the state engineer and the state reclamation commission, and expenses incident to the capitol and supreme court buildings and grounds. The governor also approved the measure applying to criminal libel laws to radio broadcasting, making offenders "over the air" subject to the same regulations as that provided for newspapers and magazines.

Senate bill 336, providing for nonpartisan nomination and election of judges, was also approved by the governor. This bill, known as the nonpartisan judiciary, was advocated both by himself and former Governor A. W. Norblad. The bill prohibiting the use of stink bombs was also signed by the executive.

Other bills included in those signed today were appropriation of $2000 to enable the state of Oregon to participate in celebration of the birth of George Washington in 1932; the measure relating to burning slashings during closed seasons without permits; relating to voluntary liquidation of banks and trust companies; election change relating to registration and tightening literacy tests of voters; providing for licensing of nurserymen; providing for sanitation and safety of public swimming pools and bath houses; appropriations for state fair and premium lists; protecting the oyster beds of Yaquina bay; and changing the boundaries of game refuges.

(Continued on Page Five)

Meier Signs Two Margarine Bills

SALEM, March 11 (AP)—Two measures affecting oleomargarine sale and use have been signed by Governor Julius L. Meier and will become effective June 5, or 90 days after the adjournment of the legislature. The third bill introduced, which would impose a license upon manufacturers and dealers in oleomargarine and butter substitutes, was killed by the house after it had passed the senate.

House bill 294, providing for an excise tax of 10 cents a pound on all oleomargarine, was introduced by the house committee on food and dairy products. It was signed by the governor last Saturday. The bill did not carry the emergency clause, so will not become effective until after June 5. Reports of a referendum move on this bill have been received at the state house.

DESTRUCTION LEFT IN WAKE OF ATLANTIC STORM

Property damage estimated in the millions was left in the wake of the storm which lashed the northeast coast. Pictures of Revere, suburb of Boston, shown here, show results of the extremely high tide which was responsible for the greater part of the destruction. Wrecked houses shown above are all that remain of a once thickly settled summer colony. Below: Boatmen removing flooded householders along the flooded streets.

Officers Search For Murderer of Virginia Brooks

SAN DIEGO, Cal., March 11 (AP)—With one suspect in custody, police detectives and deputy sheriffs today continued their efforts to solve the kidnaping and slaying of Virginia Brooks, 10-year-old East San Diego school girl, who was last seen alive on February 11 and whose mutilated body was found in a barley sack on Camp Kearny Mesa yesterday.

Harry M. Wahlstrom, 28, a poultry salesman, was taken into custody last evening and was still being detained this morning, although police said they had uncovered no evidence connecting him with the crime and that he probably would be released during the day.

Wahlstrom's detention was brought about because of the fact that some leaf mold was discovered in the sack containing the body of the Brooks girl and neighbors had observed him working among some leaf mold on his poultry ranch last Sunday morning. Detectives have made a close scrutiny of his movements during the past several days but this morning declared he apparently would be able to establish an alibi.

Late this morning deputy sheriffs took into custody a feeble-minded boy living near Lemon Grove, a suburb, for questioning. It was indicated that the boy will be brought

(Continued on Page Five)

Bowles Trial Is Adjourned; Two Jurors Get Flu

HILLSBORO, Ore., March 11 (AP)—Adjournment until next Monday was taken today in the murder trial of Nelson C. Bowles and Miss Irma Loucks, when two jurors reported for duty with temperatures of 102 degrees. Physicians said they were suffering from mild cases of influenza.

Bowles, a Portland capitalist, and his former secretary, are charged with slaying Bowles' wife.

The jurors who became ill were Harold Cutting and John Benefiel. They said they were able to hear the case, but Judge George R. Bagley decided upon adjournment.

The regular jury and the two alternates were exposed to the disease when Francis Nibler, member of the panel, became ill with influenza and was excused from duty. His place was taken by one of the alternates.

Judge Bagley said he was willing to adjourn for several days rather than declare a mistrial.

Judge Bagley said the jurymen will be kept in the courthouse until court convenes Monday, still under oath to

(Continued on Page Six)

"Oh Doctor" Has Brilliant First Performance Tuesday Afternoon

The first performance of "Oh Doctor," a musical comedy, was given yesterday afternoon at the high school auditorium for a group of grade school children. The musical comedy, rich in humor, with an element of seriousness, promises to be one of the most entertaining productions of the academic year.

Through the direction of Miss Catherine Sartain the lines are carefully enunciated, the voices well modulated in speaking; W. W. Nusbaum has trained the cast in the vocal work, and the grace of the dancers in the chorus almost reaches the height of the professional.

The scene is laid in the patio of a hacienca in South America, and the versatility of the production is enhanced by the introduction of the three doctors, Dr. Slaughter, Dr. Cuttem ,and Dr. Coffin; by Rainbow, the colored servant at the sanitarium; cattle rustlers, nurses, cowboys and a handsome young ranch owner, who steals away the heart of the leading lady.

Catchy songs have been worked up to the "right degree of pep" by the students under the direction of Mr. Nusbaum, and the dances are appropriate.

Manuel, the Mexican rustler, played by Robert Ward, gave an exceptionally fine performance at the opening presentation yesterday.

The cast includes;

Dr. Drinkwater, Packey McFarland; Mrs. Weakly, Mildred Cade; Mrs. Crossly, Alice Milne; Dr. Slaughter, Nick Hughes; Dr. Cuttem, Ralph Geibel; Dr. Coffin, Wesley Hershey; Rainbow, Jack Kincaid; Bessie, Wenona Nichols; Honor, Dorothy Higgins; Madam Chere, Mildred McCluskey; Glory Drinkwater, Cleda Harvey; Pancho, Rollin Heassler; Philip, Donald Poarch; Jim, Charles Walnum; Old Timer, Wayne Foster; Bob, Orval Anderson; Cynthia, Natalie Ebert;

(Continued on Page Five)

ASK REFERENDUM ON ROGUE RIVER

Over Ten Thousand Names Will be Required on Final Petitions.

SALEM, March 11 (AP)—Preliminary petitions for a referendum upon the Rogue River closing law enacted by the legislature, bearing the names of 12 legal voters and residents of Gold Beach and Wedderburn in Curry county, were received by Secretary of State Hal Hoss today and the petition form has been transmitted to the attorney general for preparation of a ballot title.

Ten thousand six hundred and eight names of qualified voters will be required on the completed petitions, it was announced, and they

(Continued on Page Five)

Dog Used to Trace Fleeing Thief Here

A police dog, belonging to Joe Luxon is proving invaluable to the local police. Sometime during last night thieves broke into the slaughter house of the Grande Ronde Meat company and stole a quantity of beef and veal.

Employees discovered the loss this morning and notified F. A. Epling who arrived with Mr. Luxon and his German police dog, at the scene of the robbery. The dog took up the scent and went straight across the field to the road where they found indications that the car had been backed up to the fence. A piece of cloth was found near the tracks.

The robbers were able to escape in their car and had not been apprehended this afternoon.

The German police dog has done previous work with the police department who are finding it a valuable means of tracing fleeing persons.

Taxpayers Meeting In La Grande Today

Taxpayers from Eastern Oregon towns are gathered in La Grande today to discuss assessments and taxation problems. They represent such groups as wood growers associations, stockmen's associations, granges, tax leagues, and other county organizations.

Wednesday was devoted to a general discussion of the subject, and tomorrow will be taken up with conferences between the assessors and the members of the tax commission.

E. O. N. Guidance Plan Is Outlined

At the regular weekly assembly hour of the Eastern Oregon Normal school held this morning, President H. E. Inlow announced and outlined a plan of student counselling and guidance which has been developed by a committee of the faculty, and will be put into effect at the Normal school. This program of guidance is similar to that now in effect in many of the colleges and universities of this country, and aims to assist the students in the analysis and recognition of those personal qualities which contribute most to success in life. Interested personal counsel and advice will likewise be available to the student in his effort to discover means of self-improvement.

Dry Officers Were Busy In February

SALEM, March 11 (AP) — Twenty-three liquor stills were destroyed by state prohibition operatives during February, George Alexander, state prohibition director announced. The officers also destroyed 2832 gallons of liquor and 9031 gallons of mash. The report showed they participated in 113 arrests during the month. Fines aggregated $13,975. Eight automobiles used in transporting liquor were confiscated.

Virgil Kirkland Found Guilty of Murdering Girl

VALPARISO, Ind., March 11 (AP)—Life behind the turreted walls of the state prison at Michigan City loomed ahead of Virgil Kirkland, 20-year-old steel worker of Gary, Ind., today.

The former high school gridiron star was convicted last night by a Porter county jury of murdering Arlene Draves, 18, his sweetheart, during a "flaming youth" drinking party at an obscure Gary home last November.

The jury of nine farmers, a railroad telegrapher, bricklayer and a grocer, finished 12 days work by finding him guilty of first degree murder and fixing his sentence at life imprisonment. This was an alternative from death in the electric chair which the state had demanded as punishment for the murder and attack on the girl.

Judge Grant Crumpacker will formally sentence Kirkland next Monday. Kirkland, soon after, will be taken to the Michigan City state prison to remain for the rest of his life, unless Judge Crumpacker finds merit on a motion for a new trial, or a superior court finds an error in the proceedings, or future executive clemency is evoked to liberate him.

The jury had deliberated only three hours. With their verdict, the tense waiting of the first of the five youths, charged with Miss Draves' death, was over.

Leon Stanford, second of the five, was brought here from Crown Point late yesterday and lodged in a cell adjacent to that occupied by Kirkland. The other three, Paul Barton, David Thompson, and Henry Shirk, are confined at Crown Point.

When the jury returned its verdict there was no demonstration. Kirkland, who has rarely shown signs of emotion excepting while on the witness stand, remained unperturbed. His mother, sobbing, rushed to him.

"My poor boy," she cried.

But Sheriff Maxwell drew Kirkland away. "You can see him later in his cell," he told the mother.

Kirkland was then led away to jail.

To Appeal Cross-State Rail Case

SALEM, March 11 (AP)—Prepartions to appeal to the United States supreme court from the decision of the federal court in the case involving the construction of a cross-state railroad, was underway, Attorney General I. H. Van Winkle, announced today. Van Winkle was preparing necessary papers for the appeal on behalf of the Oregon public utilities commissioner.

The original order of the interstate commerce commission directed the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company to construct a line from Crane to Crescent. The railroad company appealed from the order to the federal district court, where the commission order was reversed.

The interstate commerce commission has already filed formal notice of appeal in the case, and will be joined by the public service commissioner and the Idaho public service commission.

Medford Man Dies When Auto Skids

GRANTS PASS, Mar. 11 (AP) —Cyril Spencer, of Medford, was killed near here last night when his automobile skidded from the pavement south of Grants Pass on the Redwood highway. He was alone in the car.

Tom Wilson, of Grants Pass, took Spencer's body from the wreckage. Rain had made the pavement slippery.

Spencer's car was said to have been traveling at a high rate of speed.

SPANISH POLITICS

PARIS, March 11 (AP)—Dispatches from Barcelona, Spain, today said the Republican Catalanist party there had published a declaration expressing Catalonia's aspiration to full autonomy and consecration to the principle of self-determination.

Sixteen Soldiers In Train Fight; Held at Medford

Car Dropped From Train When Conductor Finds Men Breaking Glass and Using Knives.

MEDFORD, Ore., March 11 (AP)—Sixteen soldiers en route from Fort McDowell, Cal., to Fort Lewis, Wash., were locked under guard in a tourist car here today, Southern Pacific railroad officials said, after a near riot in the car last night.

Several of the soldiers were injured. Vincent Solinksy was thrown from a car window and landed on his head. He was taken to a hospital where seven stitches were taken.

The car occupied by the soldiers was cut out of the train at Ashland when the conductor refused to take it farther. It was to be picked up by the Shasta Limited today and was to reach Portland tonight.

Railroad officials said a group of army officers left Portland last night by automobile to take charge of the soldiers.

Knives were used in the battle among the soldiers, the conductor said.

After the train was sidetracked at Ashland police reserves and county officers rounded up the soldiers and locked them in the car after treating several for injuries. The fight, it was learned, started near the Oregon-California line.

Wrecked Plane Fails To Make 10-Hour Record

TOLU, Ky., March 11 (AP) — The wreckage of a swift Lockheed-Vega monoplane, capable of flying more than 235 miles an hour, lay in the marshes of the Ohio river bottoms today, marking the end of a projected transcontinental flight planned to break existing speed records.

Captain Ira Eaker, army pilot who left Long Beach, Cal., early yesterday on a non-stop flight to New York, had covered approximately 1,725 miles when the fuel pressure of the plane failed.

He scratched and bruised his face and hands in the forced landing, made early yesterday afternoon, and could not extricate himself from the plane for a half hour. He said he was traveling at an altitude of 12,000 feet and at a rate of 235 miles an hour when the trouble occurred.

Eaker's flight was announced as an experiment in an army search for a transport ship capable of keeping up with pursuit planes. Army officials at New York, with whom Eaker talked by long distance telephone last night, said at the rate he was flying at the time of the trouble he would have reached New York from Long Beach in ten hours and broken the record held by Capt. Frank Hawks.

SEATTLE PUTS IN CHAMPIONS OF CITY LIGHT

SEATTLE, March 11 (AP)—Spurred to the polls by city light problems and the last minute dismissal of a city light official, 62,000 Seattleites today had swept into the city council three champions of municipal utilities and carried the hotly opposed charter amendment giving city light charge of its own engineering work.

Otto A. Case, Ralph D. Nichols and V. C. Webster, all three supporters of J. D. Ross, superintendent of city light discharged on the eve of the municipal election were the three councilmen swept into office. Oliver T. Erickson, president of the council was defeated as was the veteran councilman E. L. Blaine.

The unofficial count was: Case 31,491; Nichols 31,498; Webster 30,358; Blaine 29,603; Erickson 23,321 and Conover 17,430.

Erickson's campaign for re-election was feated by a bitter controversy with Ross. The new faces on the council was believed to jeopardize the pro-administration majority in that body. Case has been the anti-city administration leader in the city council.

George P. Cotterill was re-elected port commissioner; A. C. Van Soelen, incumbent, defeated Frank S. Griffith for corporation counsel and Paul C. Harper was named school director.

Assurance that $1,500,000 worth of school construction would be started in the immediate future was given by the passage of a school bond issue to that amount. The $500,000 Aurora bridge bond issue also was approved.

The proposed amendment providing for a five day week for city employes was defeated by approximately two to one.

Jumps Off Bridge In Suicide Attempt

PORTLAND, Ore., March 11 (AP)—Rescued after she had jumped from the center span of the Ross Island bridge, 136 feet above the Willamette river, Mrs. Helen Craver, 25, was in a critical condition in a hospital here today.

Her husband, Vern Craver, said he could think of no motive for the woman's act, but A. Craver, his father, said the couple was on the verge of divorce.

Eye witnesses said the girl parked her automobile near the center of the bridge, leaped out and vaulted over the rail without hesitating. C. J. Peterson tried to grab her but failed.

Cries of witnesses roused two men at a moorage, who jut out in a boat and rescued the woman. She had made no attempt to swim, they said.

TRUCK DRIVER KILLED

KLAMATH FALLS, March 11 (AP)—Jesse Chaffin, 46, a truck driver, was killed on the highway south of here late yesterday when his truck rolled over a four-foot embankment. His head struck a rock causing a basal fracture of the skull.

INDEPENDENT CONFERENCE MEETS TODAY

Progressives Discuss a Legislative Program For Next Session.

14 SENATORS AND 16 FROM HOUSE

Norris Advocates the Government Operation of Power — Rejects Hoover Plan.

WASHINGTON, March 11 (AP) — A renewed disavowal that a new political party was being formed, advocacy of government operation of power plants and an eight-point tariff program today were laid before the meeting of Republican and Democratic Independents.

In calling the meeting to order, Senator Norris of Nebraska, projected the power issue to the fore and replied to the questions propounded to him last night by Republican Leader Watson of the senate.

Senator Costigan of Colorado, a Democrat and a former member of the tariff commission, proposed the tariff program, which among other things called for tariff laws to promote "economic disarmament."

Discussing the Watson questions which had touched upon prohibition, Russian recognition and twelve other subjects, Norris said:

"In the first place, Mr. Watson does not appear to realize that we are not pretending to be a political party; that we are not here for the purpose of organizing a political party. The questions he propounded he had best take home to his own political machine.

"Senator Watson used to be, before he became a senator, a lobbyist. I presume his former masters are better satisfied with his work in congress than out.

"We can't waste our time on those as far behind the procession as he is. Little Jimmy Watson ought to gather together his marbles, go out and hunt that boy Lucas and together they could have a fine game in the White House yard."

Following Norris, Costigan urged special steps be taken to secure lower tariffs on articles not manufactured in the United States; and that the tariff policy be revised with the end in view on enlarging commerce with foreign nations.

He said the present sugar tariff had been of no benefit and recommended a moderate bounty for continental sugar producers which he said would have saved American sugar consumers several million dollars over the present schedule.

Costigan introduced Senator Blaine, Republican Wisconsin, who remarked that the present tariff commission

(Continued on Page Five)

New York Stock Market Retreats Slightly Today

NEW YORK, March 11 (AP) — The stock market retreated calmly before such a cogent bear argument as the first reduction of New York Central's dividend in 20 years today.

While losses of 1 to 7 points were numerous, there were few declines of more than a point or two, and Wall street was distinctly encouraged by the market's ability to keep its feet on the ground. The fact that bad news has uncovered little stock for sale has provided much of the inspiration for recent bull efforts. Transfers aggregated only about 2,400,000 shares, the smallest for a full session this month.

New York Central dropped 4 points getting close to the year's low. Union Pacific, which has a substantial investment in Central, lost more than 7 points. Atchison dropped 6 and Baltimore and Ohio lost nearly 3. Declines of a point or so were numerous in the carriers. Short covering brought a slight rally throughout much of the list in the final dealings. U. S. Steel, after getting down more than 2, closed off 1½ net.

Jennie M. Kaiser, Passes Away Here

Mrs. Jennie M. Kaiser, West Harrison St., passed away at her home yesterday afternoon at 4:30. The funeral services will be held at 2 o'clock, Friday, March 13, from the Snodgrass and Zimmerman chapel.

Surviving her are two daughters—Mrs. Dolly T. Painter of Gooding, Idaho, and Mrs. Mary E. West, Portland, Ore. Also one sister, Mrs. L. Businell, La Grande, and one brother, Alfred Freel, also of La Grande.

Interment will be made in I. O. O. F. cemetery.

EARTHQUAKE AT SMYRNA

ISTANBUL, March 11 (AP)—A violent earthquake was felt at 10:15 last night at Smyrna. The population was terrified and rushed into the streets, cemeteries and other open spaces. No details of damages were received here, all communications being severed.

Wheat Today

CHICAGO, Mar. 11 (AP) — After equalling season low-price records for wheat, rallies took place in grains today. About 160,000 bushels of United States wheat were reported disposed of to Antwerp, Belgium and Marseilles, France. An advance in the wheat price basis paid by farm board allies amounting to ½ cent at Kansas City and 1 cent at Minneapolis, was announced.

Wheat closed firm, unchanged to ⅞ cents higher, corn unchanged to ¾ cent up, oats ⅛ to ⅜ cent advanced and provisions unchanged to 7c off.