

DEFENSE

TESTS

IN FOWLER TRIAL

SOULE LAST
WITNESS FOR
MRS. FOWLER

Case May Reach Jurors Tomorrow, Following the Arguments.

"REDUCTION" OF
SHORTAGE CLAIMED

State, However, Forces Accountant to Admit Prisoner Once Took Credit For Item.

BAKER, Ore., Mar. 20 (Special to The Observer)—The state, in an effort to clinch its case against Mrs. Emma Fowler, charged with larceny of public money while treasurer of La Grande, put on several witnesses this afternoon, after the defense rested at 11:15 o'clock this morning. Conda J. Ham, accountant, resumed the stand to reiterate that the \$50,000 item mentioned by Mr. Soule would not change the amount of the shortage in any way.

SPRING OPENING
AT 7:00 TONIGHT

Adams to be Roped Off—Band Will Play—Large Crowd Expected.

With the weather man giving a ray of hope with a prediction of unsettled weather for tonight instead of rainy weather, the usual prediction for the last few days, merchants were hopeful of clear weather for the spring opening at 7 o'clock this evening.

Plans are going ahead today for the opening and several merchants will put their show-window shades down this afternoon in preparation for surprise displays at the opening hour. The spring opening invariably brings forth some exceptionally fine window shades this year is expected to be no exception.

Adams avenue will be roped off from Chestnut to Greenwood for the duration of the spring opening tonight, and at 7 o'clock the La Grande municipal band will play, furnishing several numbers during the evening. One of the stores will have living models for its style show. It is announced.

LOTS OF LINE
MATERIAL FOR
NEXT AUTUMN

Spring football practice at the high school has been in full swing this week in spite of rainy weather. The entire squad was to be out for practice today, but the rain worked with the linesmen alone Monday afternoon, and with backfield men Tuesday. Yesterday afternoon the entire squad of nearly 50 men turned out for practice. Coach Ira Woodie has given them six plays to work on, most of the emphasis is being placed on individual work, and the team play will be left until fall.

There is a wealth of material for the line next season, but there is still room for a few good backs. It is probable that Woodie may find it necessary to shift some of the present linemen to the back line.

Another Drop In
Gas Price Ordered

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 20 (AP)—The Standard Oil company of California today ordered another reduction of one cent in the wholesale price of gasoline, bringing the wholesale price down to 9 cents including the state tax. This reduction met the price established by most of the companies two days ago but did not affect the price at Standard Stations, Inc., which continued to retail gasoline at 12 cents a gallon.

English Earl Slams
U. S. Broadcasting

LONDON, Mar. 20 (AP)—During a discussion of broadcasting in the house of lords yesterday the Earl of Crawford vigorously defended the British Broadcasting company, comparing it with what he called the "grotesque, deplorable and laughable state of broadcasting in the United States."

Fails In Attempt
To Escape From Pen

TACOMA, Wash., Mar. 19 (AP)—Fred C. Hartman, former member of the Tacoma police fire squad, who attempted an escape from the McNeil Island federal penitentiary Monday afternoon, was captured on the island at 5:30 o'clock yesterday morning. It was announced by penitentiary officials.

WEATHER FORECAST

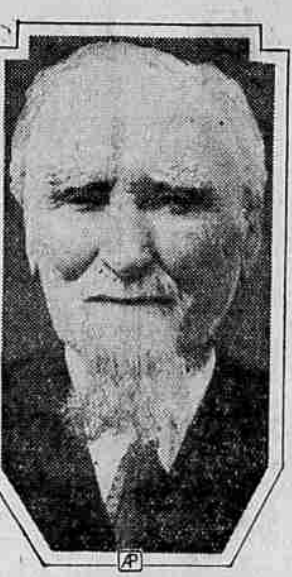
Oregon: Unsettled tonight and Saturday, probably rains in the west.
Moderate temperatures.
Fresh to strong southerly winds offshore.

WEATHER TODAY
7:30 a. m.—42 above.
Minimum: 37 above.
Condition: Partly cloudy.

WEATHER YESTERDAY
Maximum 50, minimum 36 above.
Condition: Cloudy, rain 28 of an inch.

WEATHER, MAR. 20, 1930
Maximum 44, minimum 38 above.
Condition: Cloudy, rain 36 of an inch.

87 TODAY



The "grand old man of the Pacific," Bishop Brown, 87-year-old ship owner and lumber magnate, is devoting today his birthday anniversary to "pleasure." His synonym for pleasure, however, is "work," and he's still doing it after some 74 years. He quit school at a young age to begin work in a lumber camp.

Bishop Arrives
Here Today For
M. E. Conference

Visits La Grande Territory Only Once Each Two Years—Weekend Program Arranged.

Bishop and Mrs. Wallace E. Brown, of Helena, Mont., arrived in La Grande this morning to conduct a conference at the Methodist church. Accompanying them are Rev. Ezra Cox, of the board of home missions of Philadelphia; Dr. C. L. Clifford, area director of religious education of the Helena area; and District Superintendent H. G. McCallister, of Boise, Idaho. They have just completed a two day conference in Baker, at which W. H. Hertzog, of the local church, was one of the principal speakers.

MOISTURE AIDS
WHEAT AND HAY

Rain General Over North-West—Tornado Accounts For Three Deaths in Oklahoma.

Fair weather was returning to Eastern Oregon this morning, and at 4:40, after which a fellowship dinner will be served at 6 o'clock by the ladies' aid.

Water Level Of
Wallowa Lake Is
Higher, Report

ENTERPRISE, Ore., Mar. 20 (Special)—Wallowa Lake now holds four feet of storage water, just a start on the amount needed to fill the reservoir and provide for next summer's irrigation. However it is more than was in the lake at this time last year, and the season for the real accumulation is between now and June, when irrigation usually starts, according to the Record-Chief.

Mrs. D. Phillips,
Born Here in '82,
Passes Thursday

Mrs. D. A. Phillips died yesterday afternoon at 4:30 after an illness of several years. She was born in Fruitdale. Mrs. Phillips, who bore her marriage in June 1908, was Minnie E. Good, was born Jan. 16, 1882 in the Grande Ronde valley.

Prisoners Again
Riot In Stateville

JOLIET, Ill., March 20 (AP)—Prisoners in cell house "B" at Stateville sought to escape today by force from their cells. The riot was short-lived. No prisoners were released. The disturbance consisted principally of breaking of glass in the cells and yelling and cursing.

SEVERE QUAKE REGISTERED

WASHINGTON, Mar. 18 (AP)—A severe earthquake disturbance beginning 3:13 and lasting four hours was recorded today at Georgetown, Guyana.

Sharp Decrease In
Tax Collections

WASHINGTON, March 20 (AP)—A sharp decrease in income tax collections was reported today by the Treasury department for March 18 when only \$88,691.515 was collected as compared to \$214,534.548 on March 18, 1930.

Propose Fruit And
Vegetable Co-op

THE DALLES, Ore., Mar. 20 (AP)—Organization of a regional co-operative under the federal farm act, was proposed at a meeting at Kennewick, Wash., Wednesday by representative of the Columbia and Yakima valleys.

The purpose of the co-operative, it was said, would be to buy up and orderly marketing organization and to enable growers to obtain financial aid in preparing for marketing.

H. C. Miller was Ray F. Kelly, representing The Dalles Co-Operative Growers association, attended.

The resignation is voluntary, the paper said, and would be enlarged by the McCollister might enlarge his business interests.

Thompson said today it learned authoritatively that Mark D. McCollister, state corporation commissioner since 1927, has offered his resignation.

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