

MARCH STORM DOES DAMAGE OVER NATION

Below-Zero Weather Reported in Montana, Wyoming, Colorado.

FRUIT CROP LOST AT AMARILLO, TEX.

Season's Worst Snow at Norton, Kan. — La Grande Feels Touch of Winter Weather.

The March lion, docile, as the lamb during the first part of the month, has awakened to fury this week, and today was continuing to rage uncontrolled over most of the nation—leaving in his path snow, cold and storms.

Eastern Oregon was not escaping the wrath of the last visitation of winter, with traces of snow early yesterday morning, and swirling winds today that occasionally carried slight flakes that melted upon reaching the ground. Yesterday was mostly sunny, but a chilly wind kept the mercury below the 41 mark most of the time.

24 Above Here
Last night the mercury dropped to 24 above, the coldest registered for several evenings. At 7:30 this morning it had climbed to 30, and soon afterward passed the freezing point and continued upward.

For Oregon, the forecast for tonight and Saturday calls for rains and snows, but somewhat warmer weather in Eastern Oregon tonight.

BLIZZARD SWEEPS WEST
KANSAS CITY, March 27 (AP)—A blizzard spreading fanlike from the northwest today blew its icy breath over sections of the Rocky mountain, southwest and midwestern areas.

Lulled into fancied security by one of the mildest winters on record and the apparent beginning of spring, animal and vegetable life was ill prepared in many cases to withstand the unexpected shock. Damage was thought to be great.

Sus-zero temperatures prevailed in parts of Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado, where clearing weather generally was predicted as the storm moved eastward.

Snow Over Mountains
Precipitation totaled 36 of an inch in Denver, but snow was extremely heavy in sections of Wyoming. Snow had prevailed south to Albuquerque, N. M., where the flakes melted as they fell.

Below normal temperatures were reported at Salt Lake City, where seven inches of snow fell Wednesday. Trains were resuming normal schedules after meeting considerable difficulty with drifting snow.

To the eastward a north wind howled its way over cities, plains and farm land. Damage to fruit and stock was reported in places.

Zero Temperatures
Zero temperatures and drifting snow paralyzed traffic, disorganized communication lines and grounded mail planes in Nebraska. In the western part of the state the mercury dropped to zero and a 50-mile gale drove snow into deep drifts.

The season's worst storm was reported at Norton, Kan., four inches of snow, of great value to winter wheat, followed a rain. Temperatures fell steadily. Six inches of snow fell at Phillipsburg, Kan. Heavy

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SPRY AT 91



George F. Baker, above, multi-millionaire banker, who made his first dollar when a boy gathering berries beneath bushes other pickers had overlooked, celebrates his first birthday anniversary today. Still active in financial circles, he is considered one of the world's five richest men.

CONCERT GIVEN BY O. S. C. BAND

Pleasing Program Presented at High School Auditorium, Followed by Motion Pictures.

The Oregon State college band, attired in trim black and orange uniforms, was a credit to the college and to the director, Capt. H. L. Beard, when the musicians appeared in concert at the High School auditorium last night. After the 26th year of existence, the band is in excellent condition by their program of difficult yet highly pleasing numbers.

From variations of "Tain't a Goin' to Rain No More," arranged by Capt. Beard, in which each member of the band, and even the leader gets all wet, and in which each type of instrument has its "fling," to difficult renditions such as the overture "Semiramide," by Rossini, and "Scene Neapolitaine," by Massenet, is a wide scope covered by the band in "Gilt program of an hour's duration, yet each number was rich in fine technique and precision.

"Scene and Air from 'Lust in the Mountains'" by Bergson was a delightful presentation by Clarence Bates on the clarinet, assisted by the orchestra. Mr. Bates was also a member of the orchestra. The quartet, which played a group of popular jazz pieces. Other members of the quartet were Dale Cowan, Rolf Elstad and David Wadsworth.

One of the most delightful parts of the program was the appearance of Miss Ethel Lindseth, a pupil of the school, who sang "Gilt Bye," by Tosti, and "Smilin' Through." Miss Lindseth has a contralto voice of a rich deep quality and was enthusiastically received.

Another highlight of the program was the appearance of the "Lust in the Mountains" by Bergson was a delightful presentation by Clarence Bates on the clarinet, assisted by the orchestra. Mr. Bates was also a member of the orchestra. The quartet, which played a group of popular jazz pieces. Other members of the quartet were Dale Cowan, Rolf Elstad and David Wadsworth.

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Cast Selected At High School For Junior Play

The cast for the annual junior play at the High school was recently selected, with the exception of three minor parts, according to announcement from Miss Catherine Sartin to the school. The play, to be "Dad's a Three-act comedy by John L. Hobble, and a Samuel French royalty play. The date of presentation has not been definitely set, though it will be probably about the end of April.

The cast is as follows: Robert Andrey, Bob Eakin; James Crockett, Thomas Wright; Henry Allen, Claude Whiteside; William Rivers, Charles Walnum; Nicholson Walters, John French; Ruth Atkins, Wilma Hanell; Mrs. Audrey, Lucille Lillard; Bonnie Audrey, Alma Damerell; Madam LeVigne, Evelyn Piper; Lorry, Victoria Hutchinson; Parker, Earle Hamilton; Katie, Theresa Doherty; Nurse, Dorothy Stevens; Alice, Marie Waldroff.

Three minor parts will be announced later. Eighteen characters are necessary for the play, an unusually large cast for a high school production.

The junior play is an annual event and the junior class uses the proceeds for giving the senior class a banquet toward the close of the school year.

EAST OREGON IS HAPPIER, FIGURES SAY

Less Divorces Proportionately Than in Counties to the West.

RATIO IN UNION COUNTY IS 3 TO 1

Clackamas Records More Divorces Than Marriages For Two Years—Sherman Spotless.

Eastern Oregon is happier in some ways than Western Oregon—figures prove it.

Tracie Sam has just released divorce and marriage figures for 1930 for the state, and here's the "low-down" on Eastern and Western Oregon, using the Cascades as the dividing line.

Mr. Sam's figures show that in Eastern Oregon there were 1,573 divorces and 463 marriages in 1930. In Western Oregon there were 6,018 divorces and 2,357 marriages.

That figures out about 2.1 marriages for every divorce in the eastern half of the state, and Eastern Oregon's figures are 3.4 marriages for every divorce in the western half.

Both Decrease
During the year of 1930, marriages decreased 7.9 per cent and divorces 11.1 per cent, indicating a considerable decrease in separations—just 3.2 per cent more than marriages.

The estimated population of the state on July 1, 1930 was 958,000 and on July 1, 1929, it was 943,177. On the basis of these estimates, the number of marriages per 1000 of the population was 7.9 in 1930, as against 8.8 in 1929, and the number of divorces per 1000 was 2.35 in 1930 as against 3.38 in 1929. Marriages decreased 9 and divorces 43.

Union county figures with 128 marriages in 1930 and 47 divorces, just about totaled a three-to-one ratio. Walla Walla had an even better record, with 130 marriages and 43 divorces.

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Second Course In Literature Arranged For

A second university extension course in American literature was given in the La Grande High school, beginning last Thursday evening, April 2, providing at least 35 registrars on or before that date. This was the second course in a series of courses given by the University Extension Division.

Professor Eugene Blankenship, of Whitman college, is to be the instructor, and the new course will be a study of recent and contemporary American literature, considering the current in American literature since 1890, and giving special attention to realism, naturalism, sociology, and the novel.

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NEW BUSINESS PLACES OPEN IN LA GRANDE

Two new stores appear in the La Grande business district this week. One of them already in operation and the other just started.

Students Will Compete Tonight At East Normal

Speaking Contests Scheduled to Begin at 7 O'clock — East Oregon Schools Eligible.

The Eastern Oregon intercollegiate and extempore speaking contest, including Harney, Malheur, Grant, Baker, Wallowa and Union counties, will be held tonight at the Eastern Oregon Normal school auditorium.

The contest is for high school students in the district. Representatives from several schools in this area will compete. Gold and silver medals are to be awarded to the winners of first and second places, and the winners of first place in each will be eligible to participate in the state contest soon to be held in Corvallis.

The contests begin at 7 o'clock tonight in Corvallis. The time set for the Normal school dance, which follows the meeting.

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NORMAL SCHOOL DEBATERS HOME

Girls Meet W. S. C. in No-Decision Affair — Lose to Whitworth College.

Miss Grace Herr and Miss Lucille Hudson, representing the Eastern Oregon Normal school in debate, returned to La Grande yesterday with their coach, Miss Amanda Zabel, after a three-day trip to Eastern Washington.

They debated the girls team at Washington State college in a no-decision debate, taking the negative side of the question, "Resolved that the United States should adopt a policy of free trade."

At Whitworth college, in Spokane, they debated with a men's team, the Whitworth team winning the decision, but Miss Zabel is well pleased with the showing which the girls made in their second year of debating, and with the excellent manner in which they were received at both Washington State college and Whitworth college, she states.

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HUGH E. BRADY DIRECTOR OF STATE BODY

Hugh E. Brady, former president of nearly every civic organization, and of several patriotic and fraternal bodies here, has a new position today.

The Oregon state chamber of commerce yesterday in Portland elected eight directors to serve until such a time as a state-wide committee of 50 or more civic and business leaders, can take over the reins of the organization. Mr. Brady, of La Grande, was one of the directors.

Others included: Ralph S. Hamilton, Bend; J. E. Akey, Pendleton; and Julius L. Meier, Portland. Incidentally, Mr. Brady at present is district commander of the American Legion.

PORTLAND, March 27 (AP)—The resignation of W. C. Ide, manager of the Oregon state chamber of commerce, was passed by at the afternoon session of the organization here yesterday.

Ralph Hamilton, president of the chamber, said "we refuse to take the resignation seriously, whether Mr. Ide does or not."

Ide several days ago announced he had submitted his resignation that he might "retire and enjoy life."

COOK COUNTY OFFICERS TO TAKE BURKE

Notorious Gangster, Arrested Near Milan, Mo., is Identified.

WIFE AMAZED AT THE DISCLOSURE

Truck Driver, With Flare For Detective Magazines, Recognizes Dangerous Fugitive.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., March 27 (AP)—Identification by local officers of a man arrested near Milan, Mo., yesterday as Fred Burke, notorious gunman, was confirmed promptly upon the arrival of five Chicago detectives here early today. All said they had seen him before.

The detectives, who made the trip from Chicago by motor car, went immediately to the jail and Burke was awakened.

Two assistant state's attorneys were expected here shortly after six o'clock with four of the seven warrants issued in Cook county for Burke's arrest.

The detectives said plans had been made to carry on extradition negotiations between the governors of Illinois and Missouri by airplane.

Banner of Bloodshed Fled
A banner of bloodshed flaunted through countless crimes was furled today, as Burke, killer, fugitive, waited in a police cell for his accounting with justice.

To Chicago, which named him a principal in the St. Valentine's day massacre of 1929, police here conceded prior claim to Burke following his capture in a Missouri farmhouse yesterday. Nevertheless, authorities of a half dozen cities where his name was linked with murder, kidnaping and other crimes, focused their attention on disposition of the man known as the most dangerous criminal in America.

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Trapper Takes Strychnine In Death Attempt

By Mrs. William Wiggins (Observer Correspondent)
LOSTINE, Mar. 27 (Special)—Everett Willett, 26-year-old son of Mr. Daryl Willett, attempted to commit suicide at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon. He is reported to have taken strychnine. Prompt measures taken by neighbors and a physician resulted in his recovery. The effects of the poison and at 9 o'clock this morning he was alive. He is at his home at Lostine.

Reports are that he took the strychnine during a fit of anger. Mr. Willett has been employed during the last winter as government trapper, and the strychnine was some of that issued by the government for use on bait to kill predatory animals.

JACK DEMPSEY WINS DAMAGE SUIT VERDICT

CHICAGO, Mar. 27 (AP)—Jack Dempsey today won the suit for \$300,000 damages filed against him by the Chicago Coliseum company for alleged breach of contract to fight against Willie, Judge H. Sterling Powers directed the jury to render a verdict of dismissal.

The victory ended at last the long fight of the Coliseum company to make Dempsey pay for not going through with his contract to risk his heavyweight crown against the negro challenger. In 1928, Dempsey signed to meet Willie, but later rejected the contract, met Gene Tunney and lost his title. The Coliseum company immediately started suit on the grounds of breach of contract, while Dempsey counter-attacked, claiming the company committed the breach by failing to pay him a stipulated amount of guarantee money on a certain date.

Information had been received at Salem that the defense had prepared an appeal to the state supreme court, and had moved for a stay of execution before Judge Norton of Jackson county. Granting of an appeal would carry with it a stay of execution. No word of a stay of execution, however, has reached prison officials or the Oregon supreme court.

Preparations For Execution Advance

"FREE GOLD" BRINGS RUSH



When visitors were invited to "help themselves" at the Scovena gold strike near Fallon, Nev., they needed no second invitation. Over a ton of ore and gold nuggets were carried away by tourists over the weekend in which the offer held good. In the above picture a few visitors are grabbing their samples.

TEAGUE DEFENDS U. S. FARM BOARD

Real Purpose to Set Up Co-operatives—Enemies of Board Scored.

WASHINGTON, March 27 (AP)—C. Teague, vice chairman of the farm board, charged in a radio speech today that large sums of money had been raised "to inaugurate publicly campaigns to discredit the agricultural marketing act and the work of the farm board."

He said many smoke screens have been set up and heretofore dragged across the farm board's path to divert attention of the public from the major thing the farm board is trying to do, "namely, to assist the farmers in setting up a co-operative system of marketing farm products, grown-owned-and-controlled."

"Attention has been focused upon the efforts of the farm board to stabilize the prices of wheat and cotton," he said. "Stabilization operations are considered by the board to be purely of an emergency character."

Teague said the greatest opposition to the board's program developed from dealers and speculators, trading at the point of production.

Defending the market operations of the board, in 1929 and 1930 the vice chairman said:

"It is of the opinion that the benefits to the country resulting from efforts to sustain prices of wheat and cotton during these trying conditions will far outweigh any cost, even though considerable money is lost in the operation."

With emergency stabilization at an end and production conditions minimized, the board will push its drive for farmer organization, he said.

NEW PROPOSAL SUBMITTED
ENID, Okla., Mar. 27 (AP)—A proposal that the federal farm board lease between 15,000,000 and 20,000,000 acres of wheat land and retire it from production until the domestic surplus is reduced has been submitted to Chairman Stone of the farm board by the Oklahoma Farmers Co-operative Grain Dealers association.

Stone, who addressed a meeting of the organization here yesterday, made no comment regarding his attitude toward the plan.

The grain dealers proposed that the farm board's grain stabilization corporation execute the leases, paying the owners one-third of potential production while the land lays idle. By thus cutting down production, the board would stabilize prices.

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PAINT SILVER LINING FOR GRAIN FUTURE

Liverpool Exchange Says Chinese Consumers, U. S. Growers to Lead.

GET ORIENTALS TO EAT BREAD, PLAN

Outline Situation Created By Farm Board's Action in Declining to Peg Prices.

LIVERPOOL, Eng., March 27 (AP)—Visualizing the present prices of wheat as a stimulus to its use in fields where it has hitherto been barred, leaders of the Liverpool grain exchange today planned for the Associated Press a silver lining to the cloud of the low grain market.

"They agreed that Chinese consumers and American growers are the ones to lead the world out of the morass of dropping prices."

"Get the Chinese to eating bread and American farmers to cutting their acreage and the problem will be solved," one said.

The group then outlined the situation created by the United States farm board's action in declining to peg the prices of the new crop of grain.

Sales By Samples
At present British millers who for years bought American wheat on American certification, are now insisting on sales by samples. The purported reason is the disclosure that some American wheat was found to contain a certain percentage of insecticide to prevent the inroads of insects.

Liverpool trading in wheat with six or seven nations permits British millers to select certain wheat for blending in flour, getting the advantage over American millers who generally are restricted to North American wheats.

One authority cited the present price as enabling millers to make a profit on wheat residue before sending the milling portions to the millers.

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WEST STATES LEAD U. S. IN RELIEF WORK

The western states—those west of the Rocky mountains—led the nation in contributions reported for the \$100,000 in U. S. relief campaign recently completed by the Red Cross, according to reports received here.

In the entire Pacific area only 20 chapters failed to participate in the campaign. In addition to cash contributions, some 680 carloads of donated food supplies are listed from the west.

Figures, taken after the drive went "over the top," show that the Pacific states raised 83.7 per cent of their quotas as compared with 78.3 per cent for the midwestern states and 64.1 per cent for eastern states.

In percentage of contributions remitted, the western states again held the lead. California led with 90.8 per cent for the east and 88.6 per cent for the midwest.

La Grande had an active part in the drive. It was one of the first cities in the nation to pledge its participation in the drive and guarantee its quota.

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