

FLOODS GRIP PACIFIC NORTHWEST

TORRENTIAL RAINS CAUSE WASHOUTS; DEATHS AND PROPERTY DAMAGE FOLLOW

Old Oregon Trail Highway Blocked at Mountain Springs During Night—New Bridge Menaced; No Travel to the West by Either Highway or Railroad Until Today; Several Homes in La Grande Face Serious Situation; Crest of Flood Apparently Passed.

Eleven hundred feet of U. P. track between a point 15 to 20 miles west of Meacham and three miles east of Gibbon was washed out during the last 24 hours, and railroad officials today stated that train movements could not be resumed within less than two days. Flood waters are receding. Two hundred men are on the scene of the washouts and materials for bridging the cuts are en route. Passengers and mail are being transferred to U. P. stages in La Grande and sent west by highway, the Old Oregon Trail near Mountain Springs being repaired about 9 o'clock this morning. Stage drivers expected to be able to get through with safety to the west, unless weather conditions again turn bad. Part of the highway west of Perry was washed out, and one-way traffic is in effect. A steam shovel is at work filling in the road, using rock from the side of the mountain, and other material. Elgin was without city water today, the mains washing out across Phillips creek. School was closed today. Workmen hope to have repairs made by tonight.

Torrential rains, general throughout the Pacific Northwest, and causing floods and landslides, had thoroughly choked off railroad and automobile traffic in several sections, caused several deaths and a great deal of property damage, and the weather man today gave no promise of immediate relief. In La Grande, the main part of the city escaping flood conditions, clearing skies during the morning gave promise of definite relief. No rain fell during the early morning hours, but in the 60 hours preceding, the fall was measured at 2.17 inches—which ranks as one of the heaviest in the history of the city. The precipitation during the 24-hour period ending at 7:30 o'clock this morning was .81 of an inch, bringing the total rainfall for March to 3.75 inches, just about two inches more than normal. La Grande was the western terminus of the Union Pacific railroad and the transcontinental highway for several hours this morning, with trains and auto buses unable to proceed westward because of flood conditions on the Old Oregon Trail near Hilgard and because of slides and floods on the railroad west of here. Three trains were in the yards this morning, and stages—which came from the east during the night—were preparing to turn around today and go eastward on regular schedules. At that time there were no connections with the west except by wire or airplane. The Varney line, held up for many hours because of the rains, resumed its schedule this morning and the roar of airplanes once more sounded over the Grande Ronde valley.

The new bridge near Mountain Springs, beyond Perry, was menaced for awhile with the high water cutting away the fill and flooding the road in that section. The road was opened, however, about 9 a. m. today. In La Grande conditions were at their worst in the vicinity of the Bowman-Hicks Lumber company mill, where fears were held for the wooden bridge, and where several houses were surrounded with water early today. Some reported their basements filling. The Mill canyon creek also overflowed in Old Town but damage was not great.

(Continued on Page Five)

HIGH SCHOOL BAND PLAYS FOR ROTARIANS

The La Grande High school band, scheduled to leave Friday morning for Corvallis where it will enter the state band contest Saturday, played its program of music at the Rotary club luncheon today at noon in the La Grande hotel. The program, the same as will be played at Corvallis, was very fine. The band will play the same program at an assembly at the High school tomorrow afternoon at 1:00 o'clock and the public is invited. Directors for the coming year were nominated today and the election will be held Wednesday, April 15. Ray Williams and Harry Nelson, of Portland, were guests today.

Valuable Picture Given Law Library

A picture of great value was hung in the law library at the Union county court house yesterday by J. D. Zurcher, who had framed individual pictures of a number of attorneys. Those pictured in the group were Turner Oliver, F. S. Ivanhoe, T. H. Crawford, B. F. Wilson, C. E. Cochran and J. M. Carroll. Of the group only Mr. Wilson is still alive. He has offices at Union. Mr. Ivanhoe was the last of the others to pass away, death occurring here several weeks ago. The value of the picture as a part of the law library will undoubtedly increase with each passing year.

WEATHER FORECAST
Oregon: Cloudy tonight and Thursday, occasional rains in the extreme west portion.
Moderate temperature.
Fresh southwest becoming northwest winds offshore.

WEATHER TODAY
7:30 a. m.—38 above.
Minimum: 37 above.
Condition: Partly cloudy.

WEATHER YESTERDAY
Maximum 52, minimum 36 above.
Condition: Cloudy, rain .81 of an inch.

Chancellor Of K. P. Lodge Will Visit La Grande

Leslie E. Crouch, supreme chancellor of the supreme domain of the Knights of Pythias, plans to attend a convention at La Grande on Friday, April 10. District No. 10, which includes Union and Walla Walla counties, will be host for the event and invitations have been sent out to all lodges from Heppner, Pendleton and Milton on the west to Ontario, Vale and Weiser, Ida., on the east. They will gather in the large ball room of the Sacajawea Inn. The supreme domain of which Mr. Crouch is chancellor is composed of 100 lodges in 15 states and 1000 members.

20-Year Divorce Law In Reno, Nev.

RENO, Nev., April 1 (By NEA Service)—A strict blue law regime went into effect throughout the state today with passage of the new divorce laws which require 20 years' residence prior to application for divorce. Reno business men agreed that \$5,000,000 a year was nothing as compared to a peaceful and quiet atmosphere. Aspiring divorcees will just have to wait until 1951, that's all. By the way, do you know what today is?

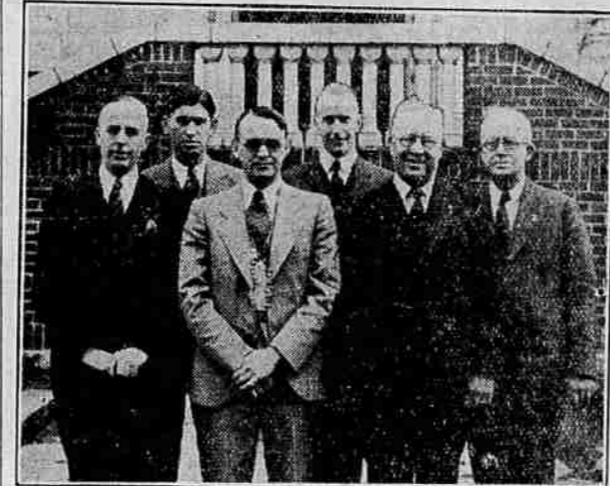


Keagle Funeral Will be Thursday
The funeral of Mrs. Sarah Francis Keagle will be held Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the chapel of Walker's Funeral Home with Rev. Paul Mortimer, pastor of the Christian church, in charge of the services. Burial will be in the family plot in Island City cemetery.

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Managua Dead Estimated At More Than 1000 Today

HEAD OREGON SECRETARIES



These men, all prominent in promotion work for the state, will direct the activities of the Oregon Association of Commercial Secretaries for the coming year. They were elected at the annual conference held recently in Eugene on the campus of the University of Oregon. Left to right they are: E. G. Harlan, Portland, secretary; H. C. Roemer, La Grande, and Earl Reynolds, Klamath Falls, both formerly of La Grande, members of the board of directors; Leonard Gilkey, Albany, president; J. W. Brewer, Portland, vice president, and Andy P. Davis, Marshfield, member of the board.

LOCAL TEACHERS WILL TAKE PART

Educators to Attend Inland Empire Education Association Meeting

Several officials and teachers of La Grande public schools and the Inland Empire Education Association are planning to attend the 33rd annual session of the Inland Empire Education association which will be held in Spokane next week on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. This is considered the finest and most important education meeting in the Northwest, and several other education organizations will hold meetings in conjunction with, or immediately preceding this convention. The Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools will hold sessions on Monday and Tuesday, which will be attended by J. T. Longfellow, who is one of three members of the commission on accrediting secondary institutions.

Gralapp Chairman
The Inland Empire association meetings open Wednesday morning with a general session followed by meetings of the various departments. Arnold L. Gralapp, local high school principal, is chairman.

ROBBERS TAKE MILK CASH AT GRADE SCHOOL

Robbers, believed to be youths, entered Central grade school sometime during last night and escaped with a small amount of money kept on hand to pay for milk, say the students during the school days. The police were investigating the case today. They report that a 16-foot board, with cleats nailed onto it, was propped against the building, the intruders then climbing into a window and pulling the board up behind them. Nothing else in the school was reported missing, police say.

AL STONDAHL ARRESTED ON TWO CHARGES

Venison and liquor when they are too near each other often cause trouble, is the warning of Sheriff Jesse Breeshers today, especially if the venison is killed out of season. To prove the point Sheriff Breeshers illustrates his theory with a story of a raid executed yesterday afternoon, in which Al Stondahl, who lives near Union, was the principal character. Yesterday morning C. C. Griffin, game warden from Baker, came to La Grande with a warrant to search the Stondahl property for venison killed out of season. But while they were looking for the deer meat they came upon a quantity of liquor, the sheriff says. This morning at 10 o'clock Stondahl was arraigned, pleaded not guilty to both charges of possession of venison out of season, and was released on \$500 bond, \$250 for each charge.

Hilgard Agent Is Pneumonia Victim

Howard F. Starlet, agent at Hilgard, passed away at the Grande Ronde hospital today following a short illness. Death was caused by pneumonia. The body is at the Snodgrass and Zimmerman mortuary. Funeral arrangements have not been made as yet.

VISITS HERE
Mr. and Mrs. J. Gross stopped in La Grande last night because of the impossibility of the roads. They were on their way from their home in New York to Seattle. While in La Grande they visited with Judy Ash.

Walz Speaks At Tuesday Night Church Service

In spite of the continued down-pour of rain, a good-sized audience was in attendance at the Holy Week service conducted at the Central Church of Christ last night, and the auditorium was well filled. The song service was conducted by Rev. Paul De F. Mortimore, pastor of the entertaining church. The scripture lesson was read by Rev. P. E. Balsler, of Seattle, who is in La Grande conducting services of the Easter season. The Holy Week service, from the cantata, "Christ Triumphant" which will be presented at the Church of Christ, Easter Sunday evening.

Rev. J. George Walz, pastor of the Presbyterian church, delivered the sermon of the evening, using as a topic, "Now is my soul troubled." The service was held at 7:30 p. m.

UMATILLA RIVER OVER BANKS; PEAK OF FLOOD REACHED

PENDLETON, Ore., April 1 (By NEA Service)—A clear sky greeted Pendleton today as home owners in the east end of town, and store owners along the Umatilla river viewed the damage wrought by the storm. Basements lining the river were flooded to depths of from three to four feet when the swollen Umatilla leaped its bounds last night after 48 hours of rainfall.

The river is at the highest stage since 1906. The east end of Pendleton was covered with water, as was Riverside, an outlying community. Homes along the south bank had water in their basements. Echo, 25 miles west of here, was flooded with a foot of water, while the Milton-Freewater districts were isolated by the rising Walla Walla river. Weston, 23 miles northeast of here, was flooded with water and silt, the result of a dam breaking at the water works. Rainfall for two days in Pendleton amounted to 1.11 inches.

Urge Selling Of Surplus to China

ROME, April 1 (By NEA Service)—Elimination of present surplus wheat stocks by disposing of them at extremely low prices in China and other countries where little wheat is consumed was recommended to the world grain conference today by a special committee. Wiping out the present surplus stocks, the committee said, would result in better prices for the next crop. The committee also recommended active propaganda for greater consumption of wheat in other countries.

CHICAGO, April 1 (By NEA Service)—Proposals to dispose of surplus wheat to China have long been agitated by various interests. Any action in that direction at present would have to be under government supervision. However, the board of trade representatives of one of the largest grain companies said today.

\$1,181,173 FOR SCHOOLS IS ATTACKED

Marion Tax Equalization League Files Preliminary Petitions.

10,800 NAMES TO BE SECURED NEXT

Would Refer Appropriation For Colleges and Normal Schools to the Electorate.

The following dispatch from Salem makes no mention of any action against the appropriation of \$500,000 for use in connection with the building of a training school on the Eastern Oregon Normal school campus, and it is believed that no movement has been made against this appropriation—which was separate from the \$1,181,173 measure.

SALEM, April 1 (By NEA Service)—Oregon's higher institutions of learning face the necessity of operating without the entire \$1,181,173 appropriated by the state legislature, until after the November 1932 election. It is not entirely by the action late yesterday of the Marion county tax equalization league, which filed preliminary petitions for referendum on the appropriation. Petitions will be circulated, beginning today, to secure the necessary 10,800 names to place the issue on the ballot at the next general election. A delegation of 20 men, representing the Marion county organization as well as groups of Yamhill and other Western Oregon counties, presented themselves at the secretary of state's office, and started the action which may end in failure of the higher institutions securing any additional funds over the millage taxes and other money already available to these institutions.

First Action by Meier
The first action against the appropriation approved by the legislature was taken by Governor Julius L. Meier in his veto of \$500,000 of the \$1,181,173. In addition, the governor made possible a referendum on the balance by vetoing the emergency act, delaying the appropriation.

CORONER'S JURY BLAMES WOMAN

Mrs. Letha Swindler Held Under Guard in Klamath Falls Hospital.

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., April 1 (By NEA Service)—Held under guard in a hospital here, Mrs. Letha Swindler, was blamed by coroner's jury last night for the death of her husband, Joshua Swindler, chief of police at Chiloquin, who died Monday from a bullet wound. After shooting her husband in the back of the head in Portland upon herself, inflicting a head wound. No important witnesses took the stand at the inquest and no statements were made regarding the party who shot her husband Sunday night. C. D. Ward, a guest at the party, said Swindler took him home at 3 a. m. Monday. The shooting occurred when Swindler returned to him home at 5 p. m. Jack Almer, justice of the peace at Chiloquin, said Swindler declared at the doctor's office "I'm done for—I think my wife killed herself."

Aircraft Carrier And Liner Collide

LONDON, April 1 (By NEA Service)—The admiralty today announced that the aircraft carrier *Glorious* was in collision with the French liner *Florida* in a fog about 60 miles east of Gibraltar. The *Florida* was severely damaged and her passengers were taken aboard the *Glorious*, which then took the liner in tow.

Investigation One of Several, J. P. Lottridge Says in Interview

Concerning the investigation of the Eastern Oregon Light and Power company ordered yesterday by state officials in Salem, and one of a number that are being ordered in compliance with the new administration's plans, an interview was secured today from J. P. Lottridge, of Baker, vice president and manager of the company. "It is our understanding that the investigation of the Eastern Oregon Light and Power company ordered by the public utility commissioner, Mr. Charles M. Thomas, as reported in yesterday's press dispatches, is a part of the general program of the commissioner to investigate as soon as possible all the major utilities of the state in order that he may have before him the necessary data to determine whether or not the rates, rules, regulations and practices of utilities of the state are fair," Mr. Lottridge said. "We have no knowledge that any complaints about our practices are now on file with the public utility commissioner. As to our rates, we have reduced them from time to time during the past number of years. At the time of the last revision, about a year and a half ago, we promised our customers that as soon as possible another reduction would be made. In spite of the fact that in 1929 our earnings were much less than allowed by law, we have been for several months compiling data with the thought of further reducing our rates if possible, and we hope that the information we have gathered will be useful to Commissioner Thomas in the investigation of our company which has been ordered," he concluded.

FLOODS CUT OFF TRAVEL TO THE WEST

Columbia River Highway Blocked by Many Slides Near Hood River.

EVERGREEN ROAD IS CLOSED ALSO

Two Men Drowned Near Eugene—15 Families Carried to Safety in Southeast Portland.

PORTLAND, Ore., April 1 (By NEA Service)—Portland and Western Oregon were cut off almost completely from the eastern section today by floods and landslides. The Columbia River highway was blocked by many slides between Crown Point and Hood River. There was no assurance it would be opened in the next 24 hours. The Evergreen highway in Washington was reported blocked between Vancouver and Lyle. The Mount Hood loop was blocked by a washout, and the Wapinitia cut-off was closed. Transcontinental railroads had suspended service since Tuesday, but the Spokane, Portland & Seattle started out train No. 4 at 10 o'clock today with the expectation of having the blockade at Skamania removed by 11:30 a. m. The Union Pacific expected to start trains eastbound about noon today.

Highway Clear to Hood River
From the east the Columbia River highway was clear as far as Hood River. The Tillamook highway, blocked yesterday, was re-opened today but motorists were warned of possible trouble. The Salmon river cut-off to the coast will be closed several days. La Grande was the western terminus today for train travel from the west. Westbound trains were expected to be tied up there two days, but were transferring passengers to stages.

TWO DROWN NEAR EUGENE

EUGENE, Ore., April 1 (By NEA Service)—Victims of the swollen Willamette river, Oscar F. Olson, 42, of Seal Rocks, and Rex Brown, 22, of Perry, drowned late yesterday when a boat containing six workmen capsized in the swift current at the junction of the north and middle forks near Wes Fir. The men, working on highway construction, were returning to their homes.

Meier Appoints Calvin L. Sweek Circuit Judge

SALEM, April 1 (By NEA Service)—Governor Julius L. Meier today appointed Calvin L. Sweek, Heppner, as circuit judge for the sixth judicial district to succeed Judge James Alger Fee. Pendleton, who was recently named to the federal bench in Portland. Sweek was born in Hamilton, Oregon, March 3, 1889 and received his education at the University of Oregon and the University of Michigan. He is a Republican, having served as chairman of the Republican committee for his county and also as councilman for Heppner where he has been engaged in the practice of law for a number of years.

Roosevelt Signs Cuvillier Measure

ALBANY, N. Y., April 1 (By NEA Service)—Governor Roosevelt today signed the Cuvillier bill, a measure to convene a constitutional convention for the sole purpose of repealing the eighteenth amendment despite the belief that the proposal would fail in trying to limit a constitutional convention to a particular task. He said last night his approval was given because he believed it expressed the will of the legislature and because he felt that the legislative action reflects the predominant sentiment of the state.

No Extension For Filing Tax Returns

SALEM, April 1 (By NEA Service)—The state tax commission today announced that no extension for filing corporation tax returns has been made or contemplated. Corporation excise tax returns must be filed April 1, the same as last year. The extension to June 15 granted to individual income taxpayers, applies to individuals only and not to corporations. This extension was granted pending enactment of the intangibles act passed by the legislature. The tax commission estimated that approximately 2000 corporation excise returns had already been received and it was estimated around 3500 would be received in the final rush today and tomorrow.

Wheat Today

CHICAGO, April 1 (By NEA Service)—All deliveries of corn dropped late today to fresh low price records for the season, and carried weight downward in sympathy. Stop loss selling by holders of corn futures was much in evidence. Unusual slowness of shipping demand here for corn acted as a weight on the market. Corn closed heavy, 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 cents lower, wheat 1 1/2 off to 1/4 up, oats 1/4 down, and provisions unchanged to 5 cents decline.

Body of Knute Rockne Arrives At Kansas City

Escorted by His Two Sons Funeral Train Moves on Toward Chicago and South Bend.

KANSAS CITY, April 1 (By NEA Service)—The body of Knute Rockne, football wizard of Notre Dame killed in the crash of an air liner near Bazaar, Kan., yesterday, was escorted to Kansas City today by his two sons, Knute Jr., 12, and William, 10. The two boys, accompanied by Dr. D. M. Nigro, Notre Dame alumnus, took the body of the gridiron genius to Cottonwood Falls, Kan., yesterday, upon receiving news of the gridiron mentor's death. They are students in the Pembroke school here. The body was met here by Father Michael Mulcaire, vice president of Notre Dame; Jack Chevigny, assistant Notre Dame coach, "Hunk" Anderson, another assistant coach, Edward Halpin, manager of the Notre Dame team, Earl King and Howard Edwards. The party boarded the train which took the body of the gridiron genius on toward Chicago and South Bend, Ind.

FUNERAL AT SOUTH BEND

STRONG CITY, Kan., April 1 (By NEA Service)—The bodies of Knute Rockne and W. B. Miller, of Hartford, Conn., two of the eight victims of an airplane crash yesterday, were placed aboard a Santa Fe train here at 4:45 a. m. today. Funeral services for Rockne were to be held in South Bend, Ind. Miller was to be buried in Lawrence, Mass. Dr. Jacob Hinden Chase, county coroner, released the bodies last night.

Dr. D. M. Nigro, of Kansas City, Notre Dame graduate and intimate friend of the great coach, and Rockne's two sons, William and Knute Jr., were passengers. Dr. Nigro said he had received a long distance telephone call from

STATE FORESTER ATTENDS MEETING

Union County Fire Patrol Holds Annual Session—Re-elects Officers.

The Union county fire patrol held its annual meeting at the city hall here on Tuesday, with the following men attending: Chairman, Ernest Ernest Johnson; state forester, E. T. McDaniels, U. S. forester, of Portland, A. J. Stange, H. N. Ashby, George Cochran, A. C. Hew, L. H. Russell, L. C. Morehead, A. G. Angel, Walter Barnett and Mr. Huff, of Whitman national forest; John Clouston and Gerald Tucker, of Umatilla national forest; and Ernest Johnson, of Walla Walla county. The meeting was conducted in the usual manner with Mr. Cochran as chairman and Mr. Russell as secretary. A summary of work carried on during the 1930 season was given by Morehead, district warden, as follows: Construction of a new lookout station on Mt. Harris, telephone line

"Dry Up Chicago" Capone's Slogan

CHICAGO, April 1 (By NEA Service)—Adopting the slogan "Dry Up Chicago, Al (Corporation) Capone, prominent proprietor of a leading ice cream emporium here, entered the Windy City's fight for mayor here today with rare good spirits. Given to

Maclyn Arbuckle, Actor, Succumbs

WADDINGTON, N. Y., April 1 (By NEA Service)—Maclyn Arbuckle, actor, died last night at his home of an illness enduring since 1926. He was 64 years old. He made famous the line "nobody loves a fat man" when he played the role of sheriff "Slim" Hoover in "The Round-Up." This role and that of Jim Hackett in George Ade's "The County Chairman" were his best known. He was born in Texas, educated in Glasgow and studied law in Boston. Admitted to the bar at 21, he practiced only a year and turned to the stage. Among his last stage roles were Stingo in a revival of "She Stoops to Conquer," and Benjamin Franklin in "Poor Richard." Turning to motion pictures in 1922 he scored a success in "The Prodigal Judge." He played the title role.

Wheat Today

CHICAGO, April 1 (By NEA Service)—All deliveries of corn dropped late today to fresh low price records for the season, and carried weight downward in sympathy. Stop loss selling by holders of corn futures was much in evidence. Unusual slowness of shipping demand here for corn acted as a weight on the market. Corn closed heavy, 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 cents lower, wheat 1 1/2 off to 1/4 up, oats 1/4 down, and provisions unchanged to 5 cents decline.

DESTRUCTION GREAT; FIRE STILL RAGES

Martial Law Declared and Rescue Work is Now Well Under Way.

AIRPLANES, SHIPS RUSH FROM NORTH

Entire Population of 60,000 Homeless and Hardly a Building Remains Standing.

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, April 1 (By NEA Service)—United States marines at 1 o'clock this afternoon had the fire, which followed the earthquake here yesterday, well in hand.

WASHINGTON, April 1 (By NEA Service)—Under the watchful eye of President Hoover, American relief swept toward Managua today by sea and air. Army navy and Red Cross speed food, medicine and men to the Central American capital and sent regular reports of their progress to the White House. Col. F. L. Bradman, the marine commander at Managua, radioed that tremors were continuing in varied degree, making rescue and relief work hazardous.

By Richard Fritzell (Associated Press Correspondent) (Copyright, 1931, by the Associated Press)

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, April 1 (By NEA Service)—Stunned by the destruction of their city by earthquake and terrified by constant recurring tremors, the people of Managua feverishly carried on rescue work today against terrific odds.

The day broke bleakly in the stricken Nicaraguan capital, with fire still raging in many sections of the city. Over 1000 Dead. Estimates of the dead from yesterday's shocks, and from flames, reached 1000. The number of injured tentatively was placed at 2000. The entire population of about 60,000 was homeless. Hardly a building remained standing. Fire threatened to complete the catastrophe.

Rescue work was hampered by the fact that the American dead were: Lieutenant Commander Hugh F. A. Banke, doctor in the Nicaraguan national guard; Mrs. Joseph D. Murray, of Concord, Mass., wife of a major in the United States marine corps; James F. Dickey, of Vallejo, Cal., chief quartermaster clerk, U. S. M. C.; and a young child, the son of a Red Army resident high commissioner and collector of customs, whose name was not given out.

Italian Consul Napoleon was among those killed. No mortalities among American civilians have been reported yet. Both President Moncada and American Minister Matthew E. Hanna were out of the city at the time. (Continued on Page Four)

G. N. ASKS TO PUT IN LINE, LAVA TO BEND

SALEM, April 1 (By NEA Service)—The Great Northern railroad today filed application with the public service commissioner for certificate of necessity to build 14.3 miles of line between Bend and Lava on the east side of the river. The change is made because of better location on the east side, the company statement asserts.

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