

MANY WOMEN AT COOKING SCHOOL HERE

Observer's Annual Event
Goes on Record as
Very Successful.

RAIN. FAILS TO HOLD BACK CROWD

Angel Food Cake Feature
of Yesterday's Class,
Conducted By Miss
Louise Leslie.

With the largest attendance of any of the three days of the Observer's free cooking school, in spite of the storm which broke shortly before the opening hour, Miss Louise Leslie, home economist, closed the school yesterday afternoon. The school had been in progress during Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, with the La Grande daily newspaper and the Eastern Oregon Light and Power company cooperating as sponsors.

The women of La Grande, during the 1931 school, showed their continued faith in this project which has been a big feature as the last years have come and gone. Fitting her courses to the present economic conditions, Miss Leslie offered such menus and recipes as might fit the present more or less deflated purses. Less expensive cuts of meats, vegetables dressed up in new and attractive ways, dairy products whose cost at present is so low but the purchase of which as largely as possible is an aid to the farmer folks, were used in each of the demonstrations. Little hints here and there which save steps and time, or make a dish more attractive or attractive—these were the things which made Miss Leslie's hours of such great practical benefit to the women who attended.

Angel Food Cake Featured
Perhaps no one item in the entire course was received with such universal interest as the baking of the angel food cake on Thursday. With eggs so very cheap, it has been said that more angel cakes have been baked and are being baked than this generation has ever before known. Miss Leslie went into the making of the cake with such detail and explained every part of the process so carefully, that many who had never made the attempt were inspired to begin, others who had had not the best of luck, were encouraged and even the experts found some hints that were worth remembering.

MAN SUICIDES AFTER ARREST BY STATE COP

OREGON CITY, Ore., May 16 (AP)—Ernest J. Merrill who attempted to hold up the Mount Scott State bank near Portland Friday, shot and killed himself when a state traffic officer stopped him here today.

Alonzo G. Dunn, traffic officer, was patrolling the highway in search of the car in which the Mount Scott robber escaped. He met the machine near here, stopped it and placed the driver under arrest.

Ladd Canyon Home Destroyed By Fire

By Mrs. Charles Grandy
(Observer Correspondent)
LADD CANYON, Ore. (Special)—The home of Alex Ferguson at Ladd Canyon was destroyed, with its contents, by fire Friday morning about 11:30 o'clock. The fire was thought to have started in the attic.

Mr. Ferguson was in the field and Mrs. Ferguson and the children were attending a picnic at the city park in La Grande.

Nothing was saved except the out-buildings, none of which was destroyed. A strong wind served to fan the flames.

WEATHER FOR WEEK
Far western states: Normal temperatures and considerable cloudiness, occasional showers are likely in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and the extreme north portion of Nevada and California.

'Million-Dollar' Rain Visits The La Grande Area

Third of an Inch Falls
Here, Beneficial to Agriculture; Track Meet is Postponed.

The farmer of Union county was wearing a cheerful smile on his face today, and small wonder. The Grande Ronde came yesterday and early today received another one of those famous "million-dollar" rains.

Soil, dried out by wind and warmth, again contained necessary moisture, and crops were given a much needed third of an inch precipitation measured in La Grande. In some sections of the valley more rain fell here, while other portions were not so favored. However, some sections received rain Thursday, also, although there was no showers over the La Grande district.

Track Meet Postponed
The showers here started yesterday afternoon about 1:45 o'clock, and continued intermittently throughout the afternoon. At the High School athletic field, a crowd gathered to witness the grade school track and field meet, went home after an announcement that the meet had been postponed until Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Although the ground was not sufficiently damp to cause postponement of a high school meet, it was moist enough to spoil a meet designed for the children of the grade schools. The parade was held at 1 o'clock and most of the children in the parade were drenched.

Few people were displeased with the rain this weekend, the precipitation coming as needed relief to parched lawns and gardens; and giving a greener tint to surrounding hills. Fishing in Union and Wallowa counties was spoiled for the weekend by the rain.

RAIN IS GENERAL

PORTLAND, May 16 (AP)—Light rains fell over Northern and Central Oregon and most of Washington during the night, bringing new hope to farmers and ranchers, and relief to fire fighters in the mountains. Grain and other crops had suffered from the dry weather.

Further showers were predicted for Washington and Northwestern Oregon today and tomorrow. Precipitation in the wheat belts in Oregon and Washington last night was light, ranging down to a trace. Fruit districts received some light rain but probably not enough to be of material benefit.

The weather bureau expected, however, that more showers during the night and tomorrow may bring considerable relief.

Quinn Lines Up Strong Team To Play Portland

Nine stars gathered in one baseball team hope to win from the Union Pacific Athletic club nine which is coming to La Grande tomorrow to compete on the La Grande High School baseball diamond at 2:30 with a group of picked La Grander under the supervision of Coach Bob Quinn.

Among the players on the local team will be found Ira Woodie, one-time catcher for the University of Oregon, and the Pacific coast collegiate league, and athletic coach at the La Grande High school, Lynn McCully, has pitched ball in the lower league and played for the Pacific coast Eastern Oregon Normal school last year, defeating Whitman twice.

Gib Stokke is an old leaguer and for La Grande in the Blue Mountain League. Cecil Foster, played for the Normal school last year and was one of the best fielders and hitters on the team.

Local Quartet In Audition Contest

Jack, Betty, Jean and Joyce Hendrickson, singing as a quartet, will participate in the KGW-RKO audition contest tonight in Portland on the stage of the RKO theatre. The La Grande children left here this morning accompanied by their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Hendrickson, of Maple street.

The La Grande quartet was the only group east of Portland in Oregon to qualify for the finals. The winners tonight will go to New York on the Portland Rose to broadcast on a coast-to-coast NBC hookup. The program tonight will be broadcast over KGW, beginning at midnight.

\$2000 DRIVE MEETS WITH RESPONSES

Indications Point to Success
With Citizens Lending
Their Support.

SMALL DONATIONS WILL BE WELCOMED

Building of Road Will Be
of Great Benefit to La
Grande, Surrounding
Territory.

Indications today, following the announcement yesterday that employees of three business houses in La Grande expect to subscribe 100 per cent, were that the campaign for \$2000 for the city's part of the cost of the work this year on the Mt. Emily road was progressing very satisfactorily.

Other La Grande citizens were making arrangements to give a dollar or more to the fund, the donations to be received by the chamber of commerce, the United States National bank or the La Grande National bank. The outlook for general success in raising the required sum appeared to be good, according to the committee in charge which is headed by Charles Reynolds.

Last year La Grande provided \$500 for preliminary work, and \$2000 was promised for this year. Due to unforeseen demands made on the city treasury, the commission is unable to help this year, and the city as a whole is being asked to help with the campaign.

Forest Service Paying \$8000
The forest service is putting \$8000 into the Mt. Emily road project, money that would not be spent in this community unless applied to this particular project, which will employ 15 or more men for several months. As a matter of fact, work is now under way on the project. The general opinion is that La Grande should keep faith with the forest service. Also, the road will be of great value to this community in future years, and money given in this campaign will be repaid many times in future business resulting from the completion of the project, committee members believe.

The building of the road comes after many years of effort, and is of great importance to this community.

Contributors to the fund are: Harry McKinlay, \$5.00; Jas. McNamee, 2.00; Julian Ash, 2.00; M. L. Nelson, 2.00; Bernetta Kochenberger, 2.00; June McKinlay, 2.00; The Mullen Sisters, 2.00; Earl Hooker, 2.00; Elizabeth Donnelly, 2.00; Dale Charlton, 1.00; M. L. Nelson, 1.00; Myrtle Bunker, 1.00; Grace Cullen, 1.00; Al Nelson, 1.00; Bertha Way, 1.00; Mamie Robbins, 1.00.

28.00

CHILOQUIN WOMAN FREED BY JURORS

Ten Minutes Required to
Reach Verdict in Murder
Case Last Night.

CHILOQUIN, Ore., May 16 (AP)—Letha Gray Swindler today was a free woman once more. It took a circuit court jury only ten minutes to reach a verdict in the murder of her husband, Joshua Swindler, until his death police chief at Chilochiquin, Ore.

Swindler, a blonde, which the court could not silence, greeted the verdict. Mrs. Swindler maintained her composure.

Swindler died from bullet wounds last March 30. He told authorities his wife had shot him but requested them not to prosecute her.

Admits Shooting
Mrs. Swindler testified in her own defense, recited for the jury what took place until 5 a. m. March 30, the hour her husband was shot. She said she had shot him when he was drunk and later, when he was sober.

"Did you shoot Swindler?" he asked. "Yes, I did," replied the defendant, her words scarcely audible.

Mrs. Swindler testified her husband had been drinking at a dinner party that night and later, when he was sober.

Annual Encampment of U. S. W. V. Of Oregon To Begin Here July 19

The 23rd annual encampment of the United Spanish War Veterans, to be held July 19-22 in La Grande, is going to be one of the most impressive conventions to be held here during the coming summer according to the committee planning the meeting. Partial plans have been completed, and national officers of the organization are expected to be among the honor guests. State government officials will also be among the invited guests to be honored by the veterans of the Spanish-American war.

A prize for the most appropriate window display is being offered by the executive committee on arrangements. The delegates and visitors upon registering will be entitled to cast the votes which will decide the prize winner.

L. R. Hale is president of the local veterans, and is assisted by an able executive committee to plan entertainment for the many guests who

GOV. MURRAY WOULD OUST 10 UTILITIES

Oklahoma Chief Executive
Begins Proceeding
Without Delay.

SPEEDY ACTION HELD NECESSARY

Would Forestall Possible
Removal of Properties
to "Veil Alleged Law
Violations."

OKLAHOMA CITY, May 16 (AP)—Gov. W. H. "Alfalfa Bill" Murray has started counter proceedings with unexpected celerity against ten public utility companies of the state.

Leon S. Hirsch, special attorney for Murray, late yesterday filed suit in state supreme court asking forfeiture of the companies' holdings in Oklahoma, confiscation of their properties, and an injunction to prevent their continued operation.

Speedy action was necessary, Hirsch said, to forestall possible removal of properties to veil alleged law violations. A meeting for transfer of the properties was scheduled for this morning in New York Hirsch asserted.

"We have rushed the filing of the petition," he said, "to give full notice of the nature of the proceedings."

Governor Murray was listed as plaintiff in the suit, directed against the Oklahoma Natural Gas corporation, the Southwestern Natural Gas company, Quinlan Natural Gas company, Muskogee Natural Gas, Inc., Texcon Oil company, Oklahoma Natural Gas company, Ozark Public Service company, Ozark Holding company, American Natural Gas corporation and Tri-Utilities corporation.

The Oklahoma Natural Gas corporation, the Tri-Utilities corporation and the American Natural Gas corporation, the suit charges, are engaged in a conspiracy to monopolize the production, transportation and marketing of gas in Oklahoma, to restrain trade and commerce.

Accused of "False" Reports
The Oklahoma Natural Gas corporation is accused of having made "false and fictitious" reports for rate fixing and taxation purposes.

Alleging interlocking ownership the suit charges operation of the defendants' companies under the conditions set forth is a "public nuisance."

NEW YORK, May 16 (AP)—Tri-Utilities (Continued on Page Five)

Silence Not So Golden To Woman, She Tells Court

CHICAGO, May 16 (AP)—Silence may be golden, but it does not appeal to Mrs. Valence Weber.

She filed suit for separate maintenance, the suit charged, "as was when they went on a fishing trip and he used a strong language because she allowed a fish to wriggle off her hook."

CHICAGO, May 16 (AP)—Settling

over land in Thief Valley litigation project near here late yesterday approved by an unanimous vote of 42 a contract with the federal reclamation service for immediate construction of a dam to cost not to exceed \$200,000, including the site.

The contract has already been approved by congress, the claim being the final step prior to advertising for bids. The plans have already been drawn and it is believed work will start early in July and will be completed this fall.

Mayor Baker Heads American Officials

S. S. ILE DE FRANCE — AT SEA — May 16 (AP)—The party of American mayors on the way to France at the invitation of the city of Paris formally organized today.

Mayor George L. Baker, of Portland, Ore., was elected chairman. Mayor A. P. Gray, of Pasco, Wash., vice chairman, and Ruth Key, daughter of Mayor James L. Key, of Atlanta, Ga., historian.

Thief Valley Vote Approves Contract

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PLAN GLOBE-GIRDLING FLIGHTS



Round-the-world flight season is at hand, with five expeditions already planned. John Henry Mears (above, center) will seek to regain the globe-girdling record which the Graf Zeppelin took from him. Wiley Post (upper left) and Harold Gatty (upper right) are another team. Clyde Farnham (lower left) and Hugh Herndon (lower right) form a third.

Stone Opposed To Cook's Wheat Surplus Scheme

WASHINGTON, May 16 (AP)—In a sweeping condemnation of the Cook plan for dealing with the wheat surplus, Chairman Stone, of the farm board, has written P. J. Wilmer, of the North Pacific Grain Growers' association, in part, the board's reasons for rejecting the proposal.

Stone pointed out the board is opposed to "any continuous policy of management from the government except such savings and marketing advantages as individual farmers may obtain from co-operative enterprises."

"The co-operative movement and conscientious growers who signed and lived up to the agreement, would realize," Stone said, "that they were carrying the burden of the plan while producers of wheat not subject to the control mechanism were getting the full benefit without bearing any part of the cost."

"The plan would be in danger of breaking down because it would 'whip the willing horse'."

The chairman said the board considered the absence of any means by which all wheat growers would be

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Robert E. Hall, Civil War Vet, Of Union, Dead

By Mrs. L. Z. Terrall
(Observer Correspondent)
UNION, Ore. (Special)—One of the two surviving members of the Grand Army of the Republic at Union passed away at 2:40 o'clock this morning at Hot Lake, when Robert Edward Hall, 88 years of age, succumbed.

Funeral services for Mr. Hall will be held at the Union Methodist Episcopal church Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, with Rev. R. C. Lee officiating.

Mr. Hall's death leaves a one-thing G. A. R. post dwindled down to one member, Samuel M. Haynes, who is more than 90 years of age.

Mr. Hall, who was born in Virginia, came to Union in the year 1892. He is survived by his widow, eleven children, 42 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, and one

(Continued on Page Five)

Baseball Today

College League
Oregon 14, Washington 10 3
Batteries: Scales and Shaneman; Felt, Robinson, Hopper, Putman and Hartnett, Pautzke.

American League
Boston 9 4 3
Chicago 3 7 1
Batteries: Russell, Durham and Ruel, Caraway and Tate.

National League
Pittsburgh 2 5 3
Boston 9 12 1
Batteries: Kremer, Willoughby and Phillips; Zachary and Spohrer.

St. Louis 8 2
New York 7 10 4
Batteries: Rheim, Derringer, Stout and Mancuso; Wilson, Hubbel, Berry and Hagan.

Cincinnati 1 6 0
Brooklyn 2 7 0
Batteries: Johnson and Asby; Styles, Vance and Lombardi.

FIRST GAME:
Chicago 1 12 1
Philadelphia 5 1 1
Batteries: Root, May, Teichout and Grace; Driehly and Davis.

Airmen Tuning Up Planes For World Flights

Nine Men Hopeful of
Circumnavigating the
World in Better Time
Than Graf Zeppelin.

NEW YORK, May 16 (AP)—Nine men in five planes seek to "circumnavigate" the world this summer to lower the Graf Zeppelin's record.

The German airship's time was 31 days and seven hours from Lakehurst to Lakehurst and 20 days and four hours from Friedrichshafen to Friedrichshafen in 1930.

The project, if carried out, will bring into competition John Henry Mears and Vance Brees, Wiley Post and Harold Gatty, Clyde E. Farnham and Hugh Herndon, Benji Burgen, Benjamin Zabor and Emil Burgin.

Mears is the veteran globe-trotter of all the thermal products, a man of a flair for adventure, he has held the record twice. He was defeated last year when his plane was wrecked in a take-off from Harbor Grace, N. F., but will try again in a fast Lockheed-Vega.

5,800 Hours in Air
Brees, his pilot, is chief test pilot for the state department, born in Washington state, he is 27 years old. He has served as an aerial pilot, aircraft manufacturer and designer and has had more than 5,800 hours of flying time.

Four years ago, while flying in California, the motor dropped from his ship, but he landed safely with no injury to himself or his six passengers.

Post, who plans to use the Lockheed-Vega in which he won the non-stop derby from the Pacific coast to Chicago during the 1930 national air races, is also a transport flier.

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California Real Estate Dealer Pleads Guilty

SAN DIEGO, Cal., May 16 (AP)—John P. Mills, prominent Southern California real estate dealer today pleaded guilty to the coming of June, when he will appear for sentence on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor, to which he pleaded guilty yesterday.

The charge grew out of an investigation that led to the arrest of Alexander Pantages, millionaire theatre operator, and Jesse H. Shreve, San Diego capitalist, on accusations of patronizing a "market" which procured girls of high school age for men of wealth.

Mills unexpectedly pleaded guilty yesterday and issued a statement saying he had been advised that he was technically guilty because he had been present in a hotel room when liquor was served to two girls, and had therefore admitted his guilt.

Pantages, Shreve and Olive Clark Day and William Jobelman, the latter two having been accused of operating the "girl market" are to be tried here May 25.

An additional charge against Mills of conspiracy to contribute to the delinquency of the two girls was dismissed.

Wash Your Papers, Editors Are Told

VICTORIA, B. C., May 16 (AP)—A message to "wash your newspapers" came, neck and behind the ears to advertise advertising" was before northwest advertising executives today.

In an address to the 11th semi-annual conference of the Pacific Northwest Newspapers Advertising Executives association, V. C. Irons, Vancouver, made the recommendation yesterday that newspaper circulation in newspaper front page stories and headlines.

"If your paper has a group of readers that respond well to advertising," Irons said, "get rid of your circulation manager."

Los Angeles, May 16 (AP)—William J. Good, of Gonzaga High school, Spokane, won the right to participate in the national oratorical contest finals in Washington, D. C., May 23.

Euro was the essential function of with all expenses paid, by his victory last night in the Pacific Coast grand finals here.

He competed with five other speakers. The subject of his oration was "Lincoln and the Constitution."

The other entrants were Sherman Lloyd, of Rexberg, Idaho; James Jacobson, of Hollywood; Thomas Compton, Honolulu; Louise Root, Portland.

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LICENSE FEE OF \$3 WINS HOSS' FAVOR

Secretary of State Makes
Recommendation Following Study.

AVERAGE TAX IN OREGON NOW \$22

Motorists Justly Demanding
Relief From Present
High Fees, State Official Says.

SALEM, May 16 (AP)—A flat license fee of \$3 for private automobiles was recommended today by Hal E. Hoss, secretary of state, following a study of the state tax problem. He further suggests an initiative petition to place the measure before the Oregon voters at the next general election.

"Motorists of Oregon, in view of the flat \$3 license fee in both California and Washington, the latter becoming effective next January, are justly demanding relief from our present comparatively high fees, the average on passenger cars now being \$22.00," Hoss declared in his statement issued today.

The new fee, if passed by the people, would become effective July 1, 1933, giving "sufficient time for all necessary adjustments to be made to fit the new schedule." The rates on trucks were suggested to be worked out on an equitable basis based on their known wear and tear on highways.

An Insistent Demand
The insistent demand of the day is for lower license fees. As the people's burden is becoming such that all public expenditures must be carefully scrutinized," Hoss continued.

"Great many other taxes enter into my reason for thus advocating a low license fee for Oregon. First and foremost, the present economic situation demands relief. The fact that the Oregon State Motorists are not being licensed, that new cars are not being bought, that there has been a steady decline in state gas tax receipts since January, that people generally are being benefited by the anticipated revival of industrial and commercial activity; all point to the need for some speedy method of saving money. To be considered perhaps only as temporary, a plan of low fees could be adopted, supplemented if needed by another cent of gas tax."

"I sincerely believe the \$3.00 fee will be with the people, and a very great majority of the taxpayers of our state. I have already discussed the plan with representatives of the Oregon State Motorists association, various editors and good roads enthusiasts have been contacted and their suggestions included in my findings. With no desire whatsoever to invade other people's rights or to interfere with any program of progress, I respectfully suggest that there would still be revenue enough left to carry on the essential function of the highway program, that in round number we would still receive enough for the following needs: regular bond interest, regular bond redemption, maintenance of highway, secondary highway system, administration and engineering, draw bridges and ferries, state police system, and miscellaneous items. Over \$4,000,000 would be available for new construction if bonds in the amount of \$2-

(Continued on Page Five)

WEED-KLAMATH HIGHWAY WILL BE COMPLETED

KLAMATH FALLS, May 16 (AP)—Positive assurance that the California will build its 50-mile portion of the Weed-Klamath Falls highway to meet the road already constructed in Oregon at the state line, was given here last night at a road meeting attended by nearly a hundred California residents who made up a caravan from Redding.

Walter Garrison, director of Public Works, and Earl Lee Kelley, chairman of the highway commission of California, gave their assurances the project would be completed.

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Professor Drowned In Lake Mendota

MADISON, Wis., May 16 (AP)—Sterling A. Leonard, 43, professor of geology at the University of Wisconsin, was drowned in Lake Mendota last night and his companion, I. A. Richards, 38, critic lecturer and professor at Magdalen College of Cambridge university, England, was rescued.

Richards, here for a lecture engagement, said their canoe overturned in the waves and they clung to the gunwale for two hours awaiting help. Finally Leonard became exhausted and sank. Richards said he made an unsuccessful attempt to reach him. Richards righted the craft but was unable to get ashore. Don Tracy, a boatowner, spotted the drifting canoe and rescued Richards.

Wheat Today

CHICAGO, May 16 (AP)—Wheat dropped today to the lowest price since April 30 and set a new low record for the season. Liquidating sales on the part of holders found buyers scarce. July wheat, representing the new 1931 crop, sold down more than 4 cents a bushel under Wednesday's figures. Late indications of rain in Canada with glowing reports about the domestic winter wheat prospects were largely responsible.

Wheat closed irregular, 1 1/4 c lower to 1 1/2 c advance, corn 3/4 c lower, soybeans 1/2 c off, and provisions unchanged to a setback of 15c.