

BAND DRIVE AT \$457.50 MARK TODAY

Approximately One-third
of Required Sum Donated
Up to This Morning

CONTRIBUTIONS COME IN SLOWLY

Minimum of \$1500 Needed
to Insure Continuance
of La Grande Band During
1932.

Shortly before noon today nearly one-third of the minimum figure set as a goal for maintenance of the La Grande band during 1932 had been received in cash or pledges. At that time, according to Raymond O. Williams, all available figures showed total donations and pledges amounting to \$457.50.

The minimum necessary to insure continuance of the band during the coming year has been placed at \$1500.

The American Legion has taken the lead in the work and several La Grande men and clubs are assisting in the campaign. Not all of the collectors have reported as yet, so it is possible that the total actually is larger than the reports this morning revealed.

Among the larger donations are: the American Legion \$120, the Rotary club \$120, the chamber of commerce \$60, the Lions club \$60.

Cash donations turned in so far total \$97.50, it is announced. Those donated include the following:

Bert Oakman, Lorene Palmer, Lorna Coolidge Miller, Mrs. Elsie Harper, Garfield Simmons, E. S. Burnett, Dr. H. W. Riley, Charles Harris, Mrs. J. G. Henry, John Niederer, Mrs. John Niederer, Mrs. Harry Turner, John Johnson Service station, Collins Service station, City Service station, Corner Courtyard, Trotters, Grande Ronde Meat Co., Wagner's Hardware, L. & L. Drug Co., Modern Laundry, Blue Mountain creamery, Oodors Cleaners, Wright's Drug store and Adolph Siegler.

Legionnaires were hopeful of raising a much larger amount at this stage of the campaign, and they are urging all who desire to make voluntary donations to turn them in as soon as possible.

MERCYS AGAIN IN CHARGE OF MOVIE HOUSES

La Grande's three theatres are again under the direct management of Senior and Junior Mercy, of Walla Walla, after a few months as members of the Hughes-Franklin chain. The Inland Theatres, Inc., owned and operated by the Mercys, have taken over the houses from here to Yakima which made up their contribution to the system.

"Operation of motion picture houses from Los Angeles did not prove successful," Frederick Mercy announces after returning to the northwest from Los Angeles. Headquarters for the Mercy theatres will be at Walla Walla.

At present the Liberty and Granada are operating here with the State theatre inactive.

Drifts Halt Cars At Meacham Hill

Although snow plows worked steadily clearing the snow from the state highway at Meacham hill early this morning, the snow drifted so quickly that traffic was at a standstill at times. By mid-morning the highway was open to one-way traffic, state highway officials stated at noon.

At intervals during the early morning they were able to clear the road for cars to go through, but a strong wind continued to drift the snow in high banks across the road. Snow plows and men are still at work there.

Other highways out of La Grande are open to travel.

WEATHER FORECAST

Oregon: Cloudy in the east and rain in the west portion tonight and Thursday; snow in the Cascade mountains; fresh and strong southeast winds offshore increasing to gale force.

WEATHER TODAY

7 a. m.—27 above.
Minimum: 25 above.
Condition: Partly cloudy, windy.

WEATHER YESTERDAY

Maximum 36, minimum 23 above.
Condition: Clear, Range—eight degrees.

WEATHER DEC. 30, 1931

Maximum 32, minimum 8 above.
Condition: Clear, Range—24 degrees.

1931 Rainfall Shortage Here More Than Inch

Eight of 12 Months Drier
Than Normal — Portland,
Some Other Coast
Cities Have Surplus.

Although Portland and several other Western Oregon and Western Washington cities are winding up 1931 with a surplus of rainfall, this is not true of La Grande. In all probability, most of Eastern Oregon is also running behind in moisture, making 1931 the fourth dry year in this section.

The total precipitation this morning, with only today and tomorrow left of 1931, stands at an unofficial figure of 18.11 inches for La Grande. The average, according to government figures, is 19.45 inches, leaving La Grande with a shortage for 1931 of 1.34 inches of moisture, unless additional snow or rain comes before midnight Thursday to make up a part of the shortage.

A normal December precipitation this year would have almost made the La Grande figure normal, but so far this month the precipitation is 1.11 inches short.

Unofficial figures for the year of 1931 in La Grande, with shortages and surpluses indicated, follow:

Month	Rain	Vari-
January*	2.06	21—
February*	1.09	16—
March	3.75	170+*
April	1.30	37—
May	.57	146—
June	2.32	85+*
July*	.00	45—
August	.07	63—
September	.92	30—
October	2.65	112+*
November	2.59	37+*
December	.70	129—

*Unofficial averages used to denote shortages.

—Minus average rainfall.

A check of the above figures will reveal an unusual situation in La

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Walter Pierce Is Not Through With Politics

SALEM, Dec. 30 (AP)—Former Governor Walter M. Pierce is "not through with politics." The La Grande resident and rancher, who preceded Governor Patterson to the executive chair, declared he was still thinking of politics. Pierce addressed the annual patrons' meeting of the Mt. Angel Cooperative Creamery at Mt. Angel yesterday.

"You know," he said, "I didn't retire from political life voluntarily."

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Jurors Fail To Agree; Mystery Man Unidentified

Some one came to the home of Joe Luckson on Christmas day and left a jar of wine, which was found during a raid made by state, city and federal officers on Dec. 25, or at least that was the defense that Luckson presented when he was tried yesterday in the justice court on charges of possession. At any rate, the jury failed to agree, and a new trial was ordered for Saturday at 10:30 before Judge L. Denham. The jury deliberated for about two hours.

Mr. and Mrs. Luckson were away from home when the officers visited the house but they found two boarders present who were called as witnesses in the trial. They testified that a man in a dark overcoat had knocked at the door and asked for

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Mrs. Douglas Home From Convention

Mrs. Gladys Douglas, supervisor of art in the La Grande schools, returned this morning from Portland where she attended the first two days of the Oregon State Teachers association convention.

Mrs. Douglas was one of the speakers at the meeting of the department of art, which was held yesterday afternoon, and spoke on the subject, "Aims and Ideals of Elementary Art Training."

The meeting of the art department was reported to be very successful. Prof. J. Leo Fairbanks, of O. S. C., was chairman of the department during the past year, and presided at yesterday's session. Fifty or 60 art teachers and supervisors were present.

Several other La Grande teachers are attending the convention, which is holding its final sessions today, including E. D. Fowler, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. McEachern, W. W. Nusbaum and Velma M. Rogers.

Teachers Conclude Convention Today

PORTLAND, Dec. 30 (AP)—With 20 departmental meetings and a general assembly on the day's program, the 32d annual convention of the Oregon State Teachers' association hurried busily along to its conclusion today.

Everything from art and English to visual education and science was included in subjects before teachers at the departmental sessions this morning. The afternoon general assembly will conclude the meeting.

REPARATIONS CONFERENCE MOVE MADE

British Government Takes
Steps Aimed at Meeting
on Jan. 20.

NO REPLIES FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

United States Not to Participate But Nations to Negotiate With America Later.

LONDON, Dec. 30 (AP)—The British government has taken the initial steps for summoning the international conference on reparations to meet at Lausanne Jan. 20. Telegrams have been sent to British representatives in 19 countries which are expected to participate in the conference suggesting that they approach other governments regarding the time and place. A suggestion also was made to ask the approval of the Swiss government, which amounts to requesting an invitation to hold the conference at Lausanne.

No Replies Received

No replies to these telegrams have yet been received.

The nations participating in the conference are expected to be: Great Britain, France, Italy, Belgium, Japan, Poland, Greece, Rumania, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Portugal.

British delegates have not yet been named, but probably will be soon.

In view of the non-participation of the United States, any agreement reached at this meeting will be purely temporary, it was generally agreed. In one official quarter it

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HAS CONFIDENCE IN COMING YEAR

Gerard Swope, President
of G. E. Company, Expects
Gradual Increase

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 (AP)—Confidence in the business prospects of the new year was expressed today by Gerard Swope, president of the General Electric company.

"We think that conditions in our country in 1932 should be at least as good as 1931," he explained, "after which we can look forward to a gradual increase in the electrical manufacturing business."

And 1931 has not been so bad for the industry, he indicated. "The electrical industry is in a particularly fortunate position, for even in the past year there has been an increased consumption of electricity in the homes, mainly because of the installation of a greater variety of electrical appliances."

"In this year, also, industrial companies have modernized their production methods, requiring new applications of electricity."

"The Pennsylvania railroad has embarked on a program of electrification, and this undoubtedly will be followed by others, where density of traffic, the convenience of the traveling public, and economic considera-

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ROTARY CLUB HEARS TALK BY DR. ROSS

Members of the Rotary club, at their luncheon meeting today at noon at the La Grande hotel, enjoyed a talk by Dr. W. K. Ross, who selected as his subject, radium. He touched particularly upon the radium poisoning and gave a great deal of technical information about the action of radium. The speaker especially commented on the recent cases in which suits had been filed against radium watch companies.

A visitor at the meeting today was Wade Goodman, of Spokane, Wash.

1932 Political Predictions Heard; Senator Moses Sees Hoover Victory

By Francis M. Stephenson
WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (AP)—Western Democrats today seized upon the threatened Republican split for a third party to advance the cause of Governor Roosevelt, of New York, as the best man to meet this situation.

Senator Dill, of Washington, in a formal statement declared "the best way for the Democratic party to meet the threat of a third party in 1932 will be to nominate Franklin D. Roosevelt" for president.

Senator Wheeler, of Montana, asserted unless Roosevelt "or some liberal" were nominated by the Democrats, a third party is inevitable.

Some of the Republican independents are inclined to look favorably upon Roosevelt, should he be nominated by the Democrats.

Senator Norris, of Nebraska, the

BIG SUM TO BE SPENT ON STATE ROADS

Expect 1932 Figure to
Equal That of This Year,
Set at \$16,042,000.

NEW WORK DURING YEAR \$9,230,000

Accurate Estimates as to
1932 Total Impossible
As Extent of Federal
Aid Unknown.

SALEM, Dec. 30 (AP)—More money was spent on Oregon's highway program during the past year than in any year since 1921. Roy A. Klein, state engineer, reported in his annual survey of work completed. Approximately \$16,042,000 was expended during 1931. Increased federal aid made available by congress was responsible for the increase.

The budget for 1932 has not been completed, and an estimate for the coming year is almost impossible, Klein said. The state highway commission expects the funds as they are received. The amount of federal aid for the coming year is an unknown factor, and until then the definite estimate for the next year cannot be announced. The engineering staff, however, expects the 1932 total to nearly approach the 1931 figure.

New Work Costs \$9,230,000
Of the amount expended during 1931, \$9,230,000 was used in new construction and betterment. Maintenance used up \$2,100,000, while the principal on outstanding bonds required \$1,975,000, and interest \$1,387,000. Co-operation in forest road projects took \$653,000, the estimate revealed.

Revenues during the past year from state funds totaled \$10,838,000; from federal funds \$4,535,000, making the total including from other sources and the balance at the beginning of the year, \$17,950,848.

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U. P. SHOPS AT SIX POINTS TO RE-OPEN JAN. 4

OMAHA, Dec. 30 (AP)—The Union Pacific railroad today announced that its shops at Omaha, Cheyenne, Pocatello, Portland, Ore., Los Angeles and Denver will re-open Jan. 4, to operate three weeks a month during January, February and March, on a four-day week basis.

The shops have been closed several weeks.

Woman Seeks Seat In Legislature

SALEM, Dec. 30 (AP)—Mrs. Ethel Morehead Clifton, Oregon City, today filed with the secretary of state her declaration of candidacy for the Republican nomination for one of the three representatives in the legislature from Clatsop county.

Her filing is the second to be made for the primary election next May 20.

"Unloaded Gun" Is Cause of Death

PORTLAND, Dec. 30 (AP)—Richard Thorn, 11, was shot and fatally wounded late Tuesday while he and three other boys were playing with an automatic pistol they believed to be unloaded. Charles Metcalfe, only eight years old, fired the fatal shot. Another boy had removed the loaded clip from the automatic. The lady did not realize there was one shell in the chamber. Richard died two hours after the bullet had pierced his lower side.

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Boy, Shot In Heart, Saved By His Blood

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio, Dec. 30 (AP)—Shot in the heart, a boy here was saved when the blood pushed the bullet into an artery.

The bullet finally lodged in the boy's groin, where surgeons said it will be permitted to remain for the time being.

The boy, Harry Beshar, was shot by a playmate Saturday.

The bullet lodged in the wall of the heart's left auricle.

Expansion and contraction of the heart muscles worked it into the auricle, with a blood clot building up behind it, preventing hemorrhage.

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CHRISTMAS QUADRUPLTS



Four of a kind, healthy and happy and ready to celebrate their eighth birthday anniversary on Christmas Day are the quadruplets of Mr. and Mrs. William Mahoney of St. John, N. B., shown at the top in a new photo. Left to right are Edna Louise, John D., Lydia Christine and Edith May. They also have six brothers and sisters, and were bottle babies. Compare them now with their earlier pictures, also shown.

Stormy Weather Will Return To Southern Coast

SAFETY, Dec. 30 (AP)—With the state barely digging out from the effects of the storm which ended Monday, the United States weather bureau said a new disturbance would bring rain or snow to northern and central California today and into the southern part of the state by tomorrow.

With the renewal of storm conditions came threats of further flood conditions and congested traffic arteries. Snow was continuing to pile up in the mountains and swollen streams were still rising. The flood situation was not as acute as over the weekend, however.

During a respite in the storm yesterday.

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Execution Of 2 Closing Chapter In Murder 'Ring'

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 30 (AP)—Two Japanese, Tadito Hitomi and Shinkichi Sakurada, convicted of murder after an investigation here of a so-called "life insurance syndicate," were hanged at 6:05 a. m., today at Oakalla prison.

Mysterious deaths of Japanese here resulted in the investigation which was carried on despite many difficulties in obtaining information. The two men hanged today were charged with the murder of Nakachi Watanabe, hanged to death with an axe on railway tracks here on March 29.

Hitomi was accused of wielding the axe at the instigation of Sakurada, beneficiary of a \$2,500 insurance policy on the life of Watanabe.

Two Speakers At December Medical Meet

Dr. James J. D. Haun and Dr. G. L. Biggers were the speakers at the monthly dinner meeting of the Union County Medical society last night at the La Grande hotel. Dr. W. K. Ross, president, was in charge. Dr. E. G. Kirby was elected to honorary membership in the society during the business session.

Dr. Biggers presented a resume of the present day methods and treatment of a fracture of the hip, accompanied by a thorough case report and X-ray pictures demonstrating progress of the union of the fracture.

A primary cancer of the pancreas, using an actual case as a background, was discussed by Dr. Haun. The pancreas is one of the digestive glands which has to do with the metabolism of sugar and is the gland which is at fault in diabetes. Since the pancreas is an unusual site for a cancer to start the case which Dr. Haun described was a rare one.

Dr. C. L. Gilstrap, who was to have presented a paper last night on certain types of exophthalmic goiters, will be one of the speakers at the next meeting of the society on Jan. 26.

The establishments of a nurses registry for special nurses in Union county was discussed and preliminary plans for forming the registry were made.

Moltzner, Fitzwater Go on Trial Monday

PORTLAND, Dec. 30 (AP)—Jay S. Moltzner, vice president and general manager of the Guardian Building & Loan association and E. E. Fitzwater, president of the Guardian, will go on trial in circuit court here next Monday on an indictment accusing them of unlawfully loaning funds without security.

The two also are officers of the Mortgage Investment company, holding corporation for the Guardian & Loan group.

Barnett H. Goldstein, legal representative of the state corporation commissioner, will be special prosecutor.

He plans to return to Europe with other delegates about Jan. 20.

Fall Pig Crop In State Shows Gain of 45 Pct.

Spring Gain Also Anticipated, Survey Reveals — Range Conditions in Oregon Improving.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 30 (Special)—The fall pig crop in Oregon was 45 per cent larger the past season than in 1930, according to annual government surveys. The large increase is due almost entirely to a large number of sows farrowing, the average size of litter measured by the number of pigs saved being 6.6 this fall compared to 6.5 a year ago. A comparison of fall farrowings this year with farrowings last spring shows the former to be over 13 per cent greater.

For next spring the survey shows that sows already bred or to be bred for farrowing exceed last spring's farrowing by 31 per cent.

An increase of 10.7 per cent in the size of the fall pig crop of 1931 over that of 1930 for the United States as a whole is shown by the December survey.

Range Feed Improving
The division of crop and livestock estimates also reports that snow and rain in December have improved Oregon range feed. Hay is generally short and feed is being shipped into some eastern areas. Short feed and finances have caused heavy marketings of lambs with heavy cattle shipments from sections affected.

Oregon cattle have shown little improvement since November, and the condition of cattle has declined in areas of late November storms but shows a gain in sections where feed has improved.

Oregon sheep are generally in fair to good condition with some improvement over that of a month ago. Range flocks are carrying a large number of old ewes from 1930 and 1931 which were not shipped. If the winter is a severe one sheep losses are expected to be heavy.

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Liggett Joins Lenz; 520-Point Gain Recorded

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 (AP)—Thanks to the help of a jovial conservative new partner, Sidney S. Lenz was 520 points nearer Ely Culbertson today in the prolonged test of contract bridge strategy.

With Commander Winfield Liggett Jr., U. S. N., retired, opposite him in place of Oswald Jacoby, resigned, Lenz won five of nine rubbers at the fifteenth session, ending this morning, and cut the Culbertson plus to 16,320.

There are 36 more rubbers in the series. Culbertson's side has accumulated 98,850 points as against 82,530 and has won 63 rubbers against 49. Play will be resumed tonight.

Three doubles were factors in the session's swing. Liggett, doubled at five hearts, took all the tricks. Doubled at five hearts, he fulfilled his contract. He was not vulnerable either time. Doubled when vulnerable in a

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Board Considers State Power Plant

SALEM, Dec. 30 (AP)—Further consideration of a state-owned power plant for use of state institutions at Salem will be given by the board of control, it was indicated by action of the state officials last night. An appropriation of \$500 was authorized by the board to conduct a survey of the amount of electricity that would be used by the departments. L. E. Kurichanop, Portland, was employed to compile this data.

While the 1931 legislature authorized the construction of a state power plant in adopting a bill introduced by Senator Burke, no appropriation was provided, but suggestion made the cost should be paid out of the earnings.

Ship In Distress In North Pacific

SEATTLE, Dec. 30 (AP)—A crew of 45 Japanese aboard, the Japanese freighter Tanahara Maru, formerly the Texas Maru, was in distress early today in the north Pacific, south-west of the Alaska Aleutian chain, the coast guard radio station here reported. Her steering gear was disabled in a storm.

Other messages relayed here said the Canadian passenger liner Empress of Russia and another unidentified Japanese ship had received E O S messages from the Texas Maru but reported they were unable to go to her rescue because of the stormy weather.

Wheat Today

CHICAGO, Dec. 30 (AP)—Year-end evening up of accounts had a steady influence on grain values today but was offset somewhat by late setbacks in securities. The bulk of trading was inside of narrow limits not far from yesterday's finish.

Wheat closed easy, 1 1/2 to 2 c under yesterday's finish, corn unchanged to 1/2 c lower, oats at a shade decline to 1/2 c advance, and provisions unchanged to 15 cents higher, helped by commission house purchases of lard.

PORTLAND, Dec. 30 (AP)—Sale of 5000 bu. May wheat on the Portland futures market during the Wednesday session at 62 1/2 c was the only transaction during the day. It gave the May a loss of 1/2 c. for the session while December and July were nominally unchanged.

JAPANESE IN ADVANCE AS CHINESE RUN

Kamura's Brigade Enters
Tahushan—Kowpangtze
Station Bombed.

MANCHURIAN ARMY STAMPEDING SOUTH

Chang Says His With-
drawal of Troops Was
Due to "Advice of a Cer-
tain Country."

By Glenn Babb
MUKDEN, Manchuria, Dec. 30 (AP)—General Kamura's Japanese brigade, advancing westward from Haimin-tsun, entered Tahushan at 2:30 p. m. today.

A powerful contingent of General Tamon's division, proceeding northward from Panhsan in armored trains, occupied strategic positions commanding the important railway junction Kowpangtze at 8 p. m.

The mission or destination of the brigade General Kamura is commanding was not stated but the belief was expressed here that it is not likely to halt before the Chinchow region is cleared of Chinese.

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STATION BOMBED

SHANGHAI, Dec. 30 (AP)—Japanese airplanes bombed the Kowpangtze railway station, inflicting heavy casualties this afternoon. A Kuomintang news agency dispatch from Peiping said.

TRAP SET FOR CHINESE

TOKYO, Dec. 30 (AP)—A Rengo news agency dispatch from Panhsan, Manchuria, today said General Tamon's main Japanese force has occupied a strategic point on the outskirts of Kowpangtze and has "set a trap" for Chinese armored trains in the vicinity in the event they have not already escaped southward.

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THIRD COUNTRY HINTED AT

TOKYO, Dec. 30 (AP)—A Rengo news agency dispatch from Tientsin, China, today said that a third country was being hinted at.

TRIO ACCUSED OF PERJURY IN PORTLAND

PORTLAND, Dec. 30 (AP)—A woman and two men were each under \$2000 bond here today, accused of perjury in connection with the trial of a drunken driver. Municipal Judge Stadter, who ordered the arrests, declared a curb must be applied on what he described as "palpable lying" at trials of drunken drivers.

The case grew out of the arrest and conviction of Raymond Miller, 28, who was sentenced to 120 days in jail, was fined \$100 and lost his license for a year. At the trial Millett, Ralph Bailiff and Hazel Wray, all accused of perjury, testified that Miss Wray was driving the car. She had been seen drinking.

The jury refused to believe that anyone other than Millett was driving, and convicted him. Judge Stadter then complimented the jury on what he called its "ability to see through deliberate lies," and ordered the arrests for perjury.

Bomb Explodes In Easton Post Office

EASTON, Pa., Dec. 30 (AP)—Charles V. Weaver, dynamite expert of this city, was critically injured this afternoon while investigating one of seven boxes, another of which earlier in the day wrecked the Easton post office.