

SMITH TO BE CANDIDATE IF WANTED

Man Hoover Defeated in 1928 Issues Statement in New York.

GOV. ROOSEVELT REMAINS SILENT

Newspapers of Nation, However, Make Comment, Much Critical and Some Favoring Smith.

NEW YORK, Feb. 8 (AP)—Alfred E. Smith looked significantly today at the award of presidential candidacy, sheathed at the 1928 polls, and announced himself willing to go again to the political war.

"If the Democratic national convention . . . should decide that it wants me to lead, I will make the fight," he said in a terse statement published today.

The statement itself was widely construed in editorial comment as in effect a thrust against the candidacy of Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt, of New York—the man who nominated Smith for the presidential nomination at the 1928 Democratic national convention and sent him forward to the contest of votes as the "happy warrior" of Democracy.

Governor Roosevelt declined to comment. So also did Gov. Ritchie, an avowed candidate, Speaker Garner and Newton D. Baker, each of whom has been mentioned as a presidential possibility.

Smith's statement said: "So many inquiries have come to me from friends throughout the country who worked for and believe in me, as to my attitude in the present political situation, that I feel that I owe it to my friends and to the millions of men and women who supported me so loyally in 1928 to make my position clear."

"If the Democratic national convention after careful consideration should decide that it wants me to lead, I will make the fight; but I will not make a pre-convention campaign to secure the support of delegates."

"By action of the Democratic national convention of 1928 I am the leader of my party in the nation."

(Continued on Page Six)

HORTICULTURE SPECIALIST TO HOLD MEETINGS

Of interest to all horticulturists in this vicinity is the announcement of a series of meetings to be held on Tuesday and Wednesday in the interest of orchardists of the entire county, and all such are urged to attend.

Meetings will be held as follows: Tuesday, 10 o'clock a. m. the J. B. Weaver orchard near Union.

Wednesday, 10 o'clock a. m. the Cherry Co-op, in Cove.

Thursday, 10 o'clock a. m. the Wilson orchard near Imbler.

Mr. McWhorter will give some pruning demonstrations at the various orchards to be visited and will also talk along the general line of orchard improvement. Those who are responsible for the meetings believe that fruitgrowers of the valley may receive much practical benefit from attending one of the demonstrations.

District Rally Of C. E. Groups Closes Sunday

More Than 100 Young People Attend Sessions Held in La Grande Over Weekend.

More than one hundred young people were in attendance at the district rally of the Grande Route Christian Endeavor Union which concluded last night. Sessions were held in the local Christian and Presbyterian churches and about 30 young people from Wallowa, Elgin, Lower Cove and Baker were present.

Executive sessions were held in the Christian church Saturday morning. Miss Frances Kelly presiding. Members of the executive committee transacted routine business and luncheon was served to them at noon by the women of the Christian church. The session was carried over into the afternoon and continued until 2:30 when the rally proper opened with a song service led by Rev. Paul De F. Mortimore. Addresses of welcome were given by Robert Eakin and Carroll Price representing the local C. E. societies and by Rev. J. George Wala and Mr. Mortimore representing the churches. Miss Kelly then discussed the theme of the rally which was "Christ in and Through Us," using as a reference, Gal. 2:20. Reports of society presidents were then heard and Rev. Ross Guiley, field secretary of the Oregon Christian Endeavor Union, told of the plans and goals of the state union in his initial appearance before the delegates. Mr. Guiley was the main speaker of the convention and his reports were most helpful.

Banquet Held Saturday The event of Saturday evening was the big birthday banquet held in the basement of the Presbyterian church. The basement was very cleverly decorated for the occasion with a large C. E. banner forming a background for the tables. Each table held a centerpiece representing a month of the year and guests were seated according to their birth months. This was all in keeping with the theme of the banquet which was in honor of the 51st anniversary of

(Continued on Page Four)

Dean Milam, Of O. S. C., Leaving China For Home

A cablegram received late last week from Dean Ava Milam, of Oregon State college, by Grace Johnson at Corvallis, acting dean of home economics, asked that Dean Milam's mail be sent to Port Said, and added that Dean Milam is sailing at once. Before receipt of the telegram some fears were expressed over Oregon for her safety. The cablegram was sent from Hongkong and was taken to mean that Dean Milam's work in China has been abruptly ended by the Sino-Japanese war conditions and that she is starting home around the world.

Dean Milam is well known in La Grande and the news of her safety will be eagerly received.

The following story appeared under a Corvallis date line before news of her safety was received: "In the midst of China's present turmoil, though probably some distance from the present center of conflict at Shanghai, is one of Oregon State college's best known deans—Miss Ava B. Milam, dean of the school of home economics, now on a year's leave of absence on a special educational mission to the orient."

While friends and relatives of Dean Milam have expressed no fears as yet for her safety, a sister, Mrs. (Continued on Page Three)

Cash and Cigarets Stolen From Store

Between \$75 and \$80 in cash, a flashlight and three cartons of cigarettes were stolen from the Fir street store of the Grande Rodeo Meat company between 1 and 2 o'clock yesterday morning, according to the police.

Entrance was gained through a flying brick out of the side of the building in the alley and then breaking open the back door.

Police are investigating the case.

Mac-Hi Wins From Baker Team, 13 to 11

BAKER, Feb. 8 (AP)—Baker High school lost its first game of the season Saturday night to Mac-Hi of Milton-Prewater, 13 to 11. The game was played here.

The absence of Jule Dreisbach, star forward, who sprained his ankle last week, broke up the scoring combination that had won seven consecutive victories. Dreisbach will be out of the game with La Grande there Friday.

Imbler Riflemen Win Indoor Shoot

The Imbler rifle team won an indoor shoot in La Grande yesterday from the Wagner Hardware team, 1502 to 1457. The shoot was with the 22 caliber rifles at a range of 50 feet.

AMERICA TO REJECT JAP PORT PLANS

Any Move to Demilitarize Ports of China to Be Frowned On.

TWO DESTROYERS SAIL UP YANGTSE

One to Nanking and the Other to Chingkiang—U. S. Marine is Killed Accidentally.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (AP)—The United States will reject any plan suggested to it by Japan to demilitarize the principal ports of China.

U. S. MARINE ACCIDENTALLY KILLED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (AP)—The accidental killing of a United States marine in Shanghai through the discharge of a gun held by a fellow serviceman was reported today to the navy department.

WARSHIPS LEAVE FOR NANKING

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (AP)—Two American destroyers have been ordered from Shanghai up the Yangtze river, one to augment forces at Nanking and the other to be stationed at Chingkiang.

The destroyer Parrott will proceed to Nanking where the destroyers (Continued on Page Two)

TIGERS TROUNCE IMBLER 43 TO 16

Stoddard and Workman Lead Scorers; La Grande Goes to Union Tuesday

Riding on the wings of a scoring spree engineered in the second and third quarters, the Tigers trounced Imbler High school's basketball team 43 to 16 here Saturday night, after the sophomores won decisively from the Imbler seconds.

The first quarter saw the Imbler team holding a four to three advantage but in the second quarter, with Stoddard ringing three field goals, and Workman, Corey and Duvette tossing baskets from the floor, the La Granderes spurred to hold a 17 to 7 lead at half time.

In the third quarter, with Workman and Stoddard scoring almost at will, the blue and white accounted for 20 more points while Imbler garnered three. The last quarter was even, with each team scoring half a dozen points.

Stoddard led in scoring with 13 points, with Workman and Wagoner, Imbler forward, tying for second with 10 each.

La Grande High goes to Union Tuesday night for its first game of the season with the strong Bobcats, and then Friday comes the biggest pre-season tilt—Baker at La Grande Saturday, giving the Tigers an unusually heavy schedule for the last five days of the week.

Coach Ir Woodie hopes to have his entire lineup on the floor by Friday (Continued on Page Five)

Norris Ridicules Democratic Party

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Feb. 8 (AP)—Senator George W. Norris, Republican, of Nebraska, predicted here today the Democratic party will "make a fool of itself" and said Alfred E. Smith's statement regarding the presidential nomination was the beginning of what may be the party's defeat in an otherwise "cinch" election.

He passed through Memphis on his way back to Washington from Representative Quinn's funeral in Mississippi.

"The Democratic party has a remarkable record for making a fool of itself at a crucial time when it has the world by the tail and a down-hill pull," he said. "It is expected to repeat its usual performance," he said as he pointed to Governor Smith's statement.

Normal School Basketball Teams Clash Here Wednesday, Thursday

The two outstanding normal school basketball quintets in Oregon—Monmouth and La Grande—are scheduled to clash at the L. D. S. Recreational hall Wednesday and Thursday nights of this week in conference engagements, and La Grande fans are looking forward eagerly to the series.

Hold Services This Afternoon For Mr. Finlay

Rev. B. Marcus Godwin and Rev. J. George Wala Officiating—Pallbearers Are Selected.

Funeral services for Peter R. Finlay, whose death occurred suddenly Friday afternoon, were held in the local Baptist church at 3:00 o'clock this afternoon, and on that account this issue of the Observer was published at noon and the offices of the newspaper were closed for the rest of the day.

Rev. B. Marcus Godwin, pastor of the Baptist church, of which Mr. Finlay was an active member, deacon, and Sunday school superintendent, was in charge of the services, and was assisted by Rev. J. George Wala, pastor of the Presbyterian church, of which Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finlay are members.

The pallbearers were H. E. Brady, J. T. Longfellow, H. G. McKinlay, E. Chenault, J. L. Hedden and H. S. Brown. The body is to be temporarily interred in a vault here until some later date when it will be taken to Battle Creek, Mich.

Civil Action On Trial Today In Circuit Court

The state highway commission wishes to take action to condemn the property of William Holden for use of the highway, and the trial is being held today in the circuit court, with Judge J. W. Knowles on the bench. The state highway commission is presented by J. M. Devers, of Salem, attorney for the commission, and District Attorney Carl Helm. Mr. Holden is appearing as his own attorney.

The case set for Tuesday, at 9 o'clock, is that of the Agricultural Bond and Credit company vs. Charles Ditty, in which the plaintiff is trying to recover money for a tractor bought from them by the defendant. E. R. Ringo represents the plaintiff and Green and Hess the defendant.

Next Monday morning, at 10 o'clock, John Owen, one of the alleged killers of Amos Helms, stands in the dock for trial for the homicide, with George T. Cochran as his attorney by the state to defend him. Mr. Cochran will also defend Keith Crosswhite, Owen's confederate and traveling companion.

An attorney is appointed by the state to defend the accused and, according to the state law, is subject to disbarment if he refuses the duty.

DR. SWEET TO GIVE TALK AT LIONS LUNCH

Dr. Charles A. Sweet, of Oakland, Cal., authority in the field of child psychology, arrived in La Grande this morning, and will be the main speaker at a noon meeting of the Lions club, before the opening of a two-day dental clinic, sponsored by the dentists of Eastern Oregon. Meetings will begin tonight with a dinner at 6:30 at the Sackajawa Inn.

Dentists from Eastern Oregon are expected to arrive throughout the afternoon, as will five from Walla Walla, who will be guests of the Eastern Oregon association.

Following the dinner this evening Dr. Sweet will hold table clinics and discussions for the benefit of members of his profession on this date. Tuesday will be devoted entirely to a practical clinic in the offices of Dr. A. M. Moore in the Sackajawa Annex, with hours from 8 until 4 o'clock.

T. O. Hill Found Alive Saturday

KILMATH FALLS, Ore., Feb. 8 (AP)—T. O. Hill, missing since Wednesday when he headed north with a dog sled out of Chiloquin, was found alive Saturday night near the head of Wiamassa river. He was working as a volunteer mail carrier to isolated lumber camps.

Reports reaching here were that Hill was suffering from badly frozen feet. He had been in the snow constantly since leaving Chiloquin.

Mr. Miller, who was born in Kansas Aug. 29, 1862, was married to Nancy C. Wells in the year 1886. They came to Wallowa county 38 years ago and he lived at Wallowa until he moved to La Grande. He was 69 years, five months and seven days of age.

Survivors include his widow, Nancy, three daughters and two sons: Mrs. E. H. Hucker, of Baker; Ray, of Wallowa; Mrs. J. C. Maxwell, Mrs. William Fawell and Floyd, all of La Grande; a sister, Mrs. M. C. Davis, of Wallowa, and several grandchildren.

YOUNG COLL, GOTHAM GANG HEAD, SLAIN

Shot to Death in Telephone Booth in Drug Store Early Today.

POLICE SUSPECT CHICAGO GUNMEN

Coll, Recently Acquitted in "Baby-Killing" Case, Shot Down in Presence of Many.

NEW YORK, Feb. 8 (AP)—Young Vincent Coll, most feared of the Gotham "guns," was slain in a telephone booth at 45 a. m. today. A machine gunner chopped him down coolly and deliberately in a West 23rd street drugstore.

A single slug tore away the nose of the 24-year-old hoodlum so often had turned up at his deadly rival "Dutch" Schultz, and Schultz beer-peddling domination in the Bronx. A line of lead, moving like a sabre, cut through the fleshy coat and vest, and into his chest.

The killer entered the little drugstore as Coll (recently acquitted of the "baby murderer" charge growing out of the Michael Vengall slaying last summer) stood in a telephone booth at the rear. Several customers were in the place.

Coll's Guard Nearby Seated at an ice cream table near the phone booth was a Coll's bodyguard. The killer, a sub-machine gun slung under his right arm, moved slowly toward the rear of the store.

He said: "Everybody keep cool. Keep calm. This ain't no stickup. You won't get hurt."

He shuffled steadily toward the rear, not taking his eye from the booth—one of three at the rear of the store—in which Coll was engaged in his telephone call.

Coll's bodyguard arose quietly from his table, circled noiselessly out of the range, and slipped through the door to the street. The killer paid him no heed. Standing within a few feet of the booth, the man lifted the barrel of the machine gun, rested it carefully on his left arm and pulled the trigger.

Escapes in Automobile The killer backed out of the store. A companion, armed with a machine gun, was waiting him there at the door of a sedan at the wheel of which was a third man. They drove away, going west to Eighth avenue and then north.

A patrolman saw them and gave pursuit in a commandeered cab. Another officer, stationed at Eighth avenue and West 23rd street, joined in the chase in another machine. Each fired at the racing car, but ineffectually. The killers car was lost in traffic at Eighth avenue and 50th street.

Police expressed no regret over Coll's death, but they ordered all known gangsters brought in immediately. Principally they wanted "Dutch" Schultz, avowed foe of Coll and the man who police said had offered \$50,000 to the man who "erased" Coll, Chicago Gunmen?

A report was published only a few hours before Coll's death that Chicago Gunmen? (Continued on Page Six)

WHEAT RELIEF PLAN REJECTED BY COMMITTEE

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INNOCENT MAN IS FREED FROM PEN

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 8 (AP)—Alverton L. "Doc" Lytle was freed from state penitentiary here Saturday after serving nearly two years of a 12 to 15-year sentence for a bank robbery he did not commit. He said he held "no hard feelings" toward anyone over his imprisonment.

Lytle gained liberty on a temporary order by Governor Charles B. Bryan after Nebraska officers verified a confession made by John Webster in Peoria, Ill., that he—and not Lytle—had robbed the Exchange National bank of Minden, Neb., Dec. 20, 1929, of \$500. Fred Kingsley, the bank president, in an affidavit said he was convinced of Lytle's innocence.

LEADS EDITORS



Thomas Nelson, editor of the Junction City Times and veteran publisher of Oregon, who was elected president of the Oregon Press conference for the coming year, at the fourteenth annual conference held recently at the University of Oregon, Ben Liffin, The Dalles, is the retiring head.

NO SMITH RALLY IN THIS STATE

Walter Pierce Regrets Al's Statement—Others Fear Party Discord.

PORTLAND, Feb. 8 (AP)—Whatever the reaction in the rest of the country, there appears to be no rally of Oregon Democratic leaders to the support of Alfred E. Smith in response to his "I will" statement. The situation was viewed with no little dismay as it was agreed Smith's statement that he stands ready to accept the party standard will result in discord at a time when Democratic chances were unusually bright.

Former Governor Pierce, La Grande, said: "That is too bad. I regret that Smith did not come out squarely for Franklin Roosevelt. I think Roosevelt will be nominated in spite of Smith's action."

B. B. Aldrich, Pendleton: "It would be very great mistake to nominate Smith. It would endanger our chances for winning the election. It's a big blunder upon Smith's part."

Marshall N. Dana, Portland: "I think the Democrats of Oregon are still for Roosevelt."

Former Governor West, Portland: "Governor Smith has a God-given right to run for president if he wants to. But I was in hope no fight would develop within the party to upset the situation as it now exists."

W. M. Dezell, Salem: "I believe Governor Roosevelt will be the nominee. The Democrats of Oregon, as individuals and as an organization, have pledged themselves to support Roosevelt, and this support will be given. In my opinion Roosevelt can win."

Walter B. Gleason, Portland: "I do not think Smith can be nominated. I am for Governor Roosevelt who can be nominated and who (Continued on Page Two)

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MAGAZINE BEGINS PROHIBITION POLL

NEW YORK, Feb. 8—Twenty million voters throughout the entire United States are now being polled for their opinion on prohibition by the Literary Digest.

La Grande's allotment of ballots has already been mailed from the poll's headquarters and should be distributed by the local post office within a few days, according to advice released today.

The first tabulated returns of the nationwide balloting will be published late in February, it is stated. Distribution of the post-card ballots which are used in this "straw" referendum have been mailed widely throughout the United States already, an announcement states.

British, French Delegates Clash At Disarm Meet

Sir John Simon and M. Tardieu in Verbal Disagreement—Gibson to Speak Tuesday.

By P. I. Lipsey, Jr. (Copyright, 1932, by the Associated Press) GENEVA, Feb. 8 (AP)—Great Britain and France clashed pointedly at the world disarmament conference today over two distinctly separate theories about abolishing war.

Sir John Simon, British spokesman, presented Great Britain's plan for disarmament, including abolition of submarines and gas and chemical warfare, at the same time sharply criticizing the proposal of France for arming the league of nations.

"That the peace of the world is to be secured by preparing for war," he said, "is no longer believed by anybody, for recent history manifestly disproves it." Sir John also insisted that the scope of the proposals discussed be kept within the field of the disarmament convention, drawn up beforehand. He declared the British proposals remained within this field.

Tardieu Replies Andre Tardieu, French minister of war and head of the French delegation, who proposed the French armament plan last week, declared that until the league is armed there can be no peace in the world. He spoke immediately following Sir John. He denied a suggestion that the French plan was "merely a maneuver."

The conference must work entirely within the terms of the league covenant, he said, and the nations must be ready to join France in giving mutual pledges of assistance against aggressors before a real reduction of armaments can be realized.

"We are not met here to remake the map of the world," he warned in words which had a special reference to Germany and her defeated allies. Chancellor Heinrich Brüning, of Germany, sat in the conference during the discussion and was the only delegate who had a copy of the British plan.

(Continued on Page Four)

HOPE TO RELEASE TREMENDOUS SUM FOR CIRCULATION

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (AP)—Movement to place \$1,500,000,000 of bonded money into circulation and to expedite aid to farmers from the reconstruction finance corporation gained impetus today in the capital.

Colonel Frank Knox, publisher of the Chicago Daily News, who has been designated by President Hoover to head the anti-bonding campaign, began a round of conferences with government officials immediately upon his arrival.

Meanwhile, a congressional delegation from mid-western agricultural states requested the reconstruction corporation to set up a division in its organization especially charged with making loans to agriculture.

Headed by Representative Knutson, Republican, Minnesota, and Strong, Republican, Kansas, the delegation consulted with Charles G. Dawes, president of the corporation, for more than an hour.

Knutson said afterwards the proposals had been received "in a friendly spirit."

States represented at the conference included Montana and Idaho. Another recommendation was: "That the operations of the corporation with respect to loans and advancements to country banks and other agencies engaged in financing the agricultural community in the middle west be segregated and divorced from the large city banks which do not deal directly with the farmers in the making of loans, to the end that the making of loans and advancements to such rural banks or loan agencies may be accomplished without influence or direction from such city banks."

The group also recommended setting up loan committees in the state represented.

The loan committees would consist of men closely affiliated and thoroughly conversant with the rural banking and credit needs of their states.

DREYFUSS IS LAID TO REST IN PITTSBURGH PITTSBURGH, Feb. 8 (AP)—The baseball world—club-owners, managers, players and fans—mingled in grief as Barney Dreyfuss, owner of the Pittsburgh Pirates and for three decades an outstanding figure in the sports world, was buried yesterday.

Judge Keneaw Mountain Landis, high commissioner of baseball; John A. Heydler, president of the National league, and William Harbridge, president of the American league were among those who paid tribute at the bier of Mr. Dreyfuss, father of the world series idea.

JAP TROOPS DRIVEN BACK AT WOOSUNG

Chinese, Fighting Spirit-edly, Finally Retreat From Fort, However

BRITISH SOLDIERS BLOCK JAPANESE

Shells From Artillery Clash at Chapei Fall Within Boundaries of International Area.

SHANGHAI, Tuesday, Feb. 9 (AP)—The terrific bombardment of Chapei by the Japanese and the furious reply of Chinese guns, ceased early today with little apparent change in the position of either side.

By James F. Howe SHANGHAI, China, Feb. 8 (AP)—Fighting with a spirit they had not hitherto exhibited, the Chinese army today repulsed a Japanese attack on the forts at Woosung and renewed the bombardment of the enemy blue-jackets holding Hongkow.

The Japanese already had occupied a part of Woosung village, 18 miles down the Whangpo from the city, but when they tried to extend their holdings the Chinese threw them back. Thereupon nine Japanese destroyers opened up from the river and dropped shells in the village.

Chinese Shell Hongkow Over in Chapei, where things were quiet in the morning, the Chinese unlimbered their trench mortars late in the afternoon and began shelling Hongkow.

The Japanese replied with their artillery and sent a detachment of blue-jackets into action with rifles and machine guns. The firing kept up for three hours and some of the shells fell inside the international settlement.

The British volunteers, strung along the settlement boundary near the Chapei north station, blocked a Japanese flank attack.

The Japanese moved along Ranger road, trying to get around a British "pillbox." If they had succeeded they could have gone along the Elgin road and fallen upon the Chinese rear.

British Block Japanese But the British threw a sand-bag barricade at the end of Ranger road and headed them off.

It blocked the movement, but it left the British in a delicate position, facing the Japanese in one direction and the Chinese in the other.

A fresh force of 2400 Japanese troops, outnumbering the Chinese, smashed through sleet, snow and rain today toward the embattled Chinese Woesung forts, and occupied the village of Woosung under the cover of a heavy barrage from the guns of the warships in the river.

The Chinese offered less resistance at Woosung today, in contrast with the galling fire they poured on the attackers yesterday. Today only a light exchange of rifle and machine gun fire from the Chinese was heard. As the 2000 Japanese infantry troops (Continued on Page Two)

FRED L. KENT, STATISTICIAN, PASSES AWAY

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 8 (AP)—Fred L. Kent, 65, regional statistician here for the United States department of agriculture, died in a Portland hospital Sunday from head injuries received in an automobile accident Saturday night.

Police said Fred Puhi, 25, Portland, told them Kent walked into the right side of his automobile. Puhi, who brought Kent to the police emergency hospital, said he was traveling slowly. Kent is survived by a brother, L. B. Kent, Portland. His death was the sixteenth traffic fatality here since Dec. 1 and the first in nearly four weeks.

DIVER SEES BODIES IN SUNKEN VESSEL

PORTLAND, England, Feb. 8 (AP)—A diver investigating the sunken submarine M-2 in the English channel today flashed his deep-sea light into the open conning tower, revealing the bodies of two men.

He said they appeared to be those of higher officers of the craft, which sank January 26 with all 61 hands. It was reported an attempt will be made later today to remove the seaplane from the submarine's hangar, as its strut wires were interfering with the work of divers.