

OREGON FAR BETTER OFF THAN MANY

Gov. Meier, Returned From Trip to East, Takes Optimistic View.

HAS NO PLANS TO "FIRE" SPAULDING

Will Continue to Salem to Go Ahead With His Program of Reducing State Tax Levy.

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 10 (AP)—Governor Julius L. Meier returned to Oregon today, convinced that his state is far better off economically than many eastern and middle western states.

This he said today as he discussed unemployment and industrial problems as he saw them on a trip to Washington, D. C., where he appeared before the board of army engineers in behalf of Columbia river development, and on a visit to New York where he spoke with the nation's financiers and industrialists.

He commented on press dispatches to Oregon mentioning him while he was in New York, and said today he "believes" he will not be a candidate to succeed himself as governor. He reserved, however, the right to change his mind.

Wasn't "Fire" Spaulding
One of the first questions the governor was asked when he arrived here was answered to the effect that he does not intend to "fire" Charles K. Spaulding, highway commissioner, who since his appointment has been

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TAX MILLAGE FIGURES SHOW LA GRANDE 57.9

La Grande citizens will pay a tax of 57.9 mills this year for all purposes, a considerable reduction from the amount paid in 1931, according to figures released from the offices of the state treasurer, Rufus C. Holman.

Although La Grande's millage is somewhat higher than Baker, Pendleton and some of the other small cities of the state, it is practically on a par with Medford and much lower than Astoria and Oregon City. Incidentally, the new millage represents what many believe is a first important step toward a consistent program of tax reduction.

Figures for the 14 largest cities in Oregon follow:

Albany	47	mills
Astoria	89.5	mills
Baker	43	mills
Cornwall	44.24	mills
Eugene	53.6	mills
Klamath Falls	47.7	mills
La Grande	57.9	mills
Medford	57.4	mills
Oregon City	63.9	mills
Pendleton	31.5	mills
Portland	46.4	mills
Roseburg	47.2	mills
Salem	47.3	mills
The Dalles	47.06	mills

Thawing Weather In Store Today

Another day of thawing weather appeared in store this morning with the mercury at 31 above at 7 o'clock, following a snowfall during the evening. Yesterday the maximum was 39 above and the minimum 19 above.

During the last week, with somewhat warmer weather locally, a considerable amount of snow has been erased and in other places the snow has settled to a great extent. A strong wind whipped over the valley last night, although it was not so intense in La Grande as toward Hot Lake and Union.

SNOW AND RAIN PREDICTED PORTLAND, FEB. 10 (AP)—

Occasional showers were predicted for today and tonight in Western Oregon, with colder weather in the eastern section of the state.

Snow flurries at Crown Point, mixed rain and snow at Carrolls, Wash.; moderate snow at Winlock, Wash.; and occasional snow in the Siskiyou mountains was reported by the airport weather bureau here.

WEATHER FORECAST Oregon: Fair tonight and Thursday, but cloudy with occasional rains, in the west portion; moderate temperatures; fresh and at times strong west winds offshore.

WEATHER TODAY
7 a. m.—31 above.
Minimum: 19 above.
Condition: Cloudy.

WEATHER YESTERDAY
Maximum 39, minimum 19 above.
Condition: Cloudy, traces of snow, moisture .08 of an inch. Range—20 degrees.

WEATHER FEB. 10, 1931
Maximum 50, minimum 30 above.
Condition: Cloudy. Range—20 degrees.

SHE'S QUEEN



Highest social honors that New Orleans can bestow go to Yvonne White, above, carnival queen of the colorful 1932 Mardi Gras, and possessor of a distinguished "royal" lineage. In 1921, her father ruled as Mardi Gras king; in 1925, her sister was queen, and, in 1929, her mother was queen of the Mystic club, most exclusive carnival organization.

MRS. PIERCE NOT SURE ABOUT RACE

La Grande Woman Undecided as to Whether She Will Be Candidate

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 10 (Special)—Whether Mrs. Walter M. Pierce, of La Grande, will enter the contest for the office of representative in congress from the second congressional district at the republican primary election has not yet been determined definitely.

This was made plain by Mrs. Pierce, who is in Salem attending a meeting of the curriculum committee of the state board of higher education. Mr. Pierce already has announced his candidacy for the office at the democratic primary election, and given any thought to a platform, Mrs. Pierce replied:

"I can write two platforms as well as one."

Mrs. Pierce indicated that in case she decided to enter the race she

Eastern Oregon Dentists Close Two-Day Clinic

A successful two-day practical clinic, in which 35 dentists of Eastern Oregon and Washington benefited from suggestions made by Dr. Charles A. Sweet, Oakland specialist in children's dentistry, closed yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Dr. Sweet left last night for Bend, where he will address several groups on the importance of preventative dentistry. Other dentists also have returned to their homes.

Dr. T. M. Birkbeck, of Milton, president of the Eastern Oregon Dental society, and Dr. A. M. Moore, of La Grande, secretary, expressed

Recover Money And Merchandise

Police, investigating the burglary at the Fir street market of the Grande Ronde Meat company, arrested a boy about 14 years of age yesterday who is reported to have admitted the crime. The police have recovered the money and articles stolen from the store.

The name of the lad was withheld because of his youth and the fact it was his first offense. His case will come before Judge U. G. Couch, according to present plans.

Mrs. Douglass And Rev. Godwin Winners

Two La Grande residents, Mrs. Gladys E. Douglass, teacher in penmanship and art, of 501 Adams avenue and Rev. B. M. Godwin, pastor of the Baptist church, were among the 260 prize winners in the national Piggy Wiggy contest, according to word received here yesterday.

Mrs. Douglass' letter, on "Why I Like to Buy my Groceries in a Piggy Wiggy Store" was selected from among more than 96,000 letters and won for her an award of \$50 worth of groceries. Her letter was one of 40 in the group winning similar prizes. Mr. Godwin's letter, on the same subject, was selected as one of the 200 who received an award of \$5 worth of groceries.

Oregon Products Week To Be Held Here Feb. 15 - 20

Movement Sponsored by Club Women — Merchants of City Will Co-operate in Observance.

The La Grande Neighborhood club is sponsoring the observance locally of Oregon Products Week, to begin on Feb. 15, next Monday, and end on Saturday, Feb. 20. The committee appointed early in the year, consisting of Mrs. Glen Thompson, chairman, Mrs. Clyde Seitz, Mrs. H. G. Avery, Mrs. Jack Ferris, Mrs. F. A. Epling and Mrs. M. M. Christensen.

The purpose of the week, of course, is to attempt to increase the general use of Oregon products, and in this connection, practically all of the La Grande merchants will lend their support.

Merchants to Co-operate
The committee has contacted the business people of the city and all who handle Oregon products have agreed to participate in the week. The plans at present contemplate placing special emphasis on all Oregon products, through the advertisements in the newspapers, show window displays, published lists of products, etc.

Scores of Oregon products are sold in La Grande, most of them competing directly with articles raised or manufactured in other states, and the club women hope through their efforts to increase local appreciation of the superior qualities of many of the Oregon-made products.

Program to Feature Oregon Products
The club, at its meeting Tuesday afternoon, will devote its program to the theme of the week, with the committee members participating. All of the details have not been worked out but will be completed within the next few days.

Throughout the year the Neighborhood club has been devoting its programs to Oregon and this represents

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REAL ESTATE IS 'MOVING' IN WALLOWA AREA

By G. C. Meek (Observer Correspondent)

WALLOWA, Ore. (Special)—Reports of several real estate transfers in various parts of this county during the past few weeks, lead many to believe that times are at last beginning to show some signs of picking up. L. Couch, local real estate dealer, reports receiving a large number of inquiries from home-seekers from widely scattered parts of the country, with some coming from as far east as Chicago. With a general tendency toward a more diversified farm program, there has been a great demand for leasing of smaller farms, especially of the type which has some irrigated land on them. There also appears to be an improved feeling of confidence on the part of renters in regard to operating dry land grain ranches and judging from the degree of interest expressed by several who plan on leasing of farms for the coming season, it seems very unlikely that any farms in this end of the valley will lay unattended this year. With the slow but steady reduction in operating costs many of the grain farmers of this county feel that they will soon again be able to produce their crops in such a way that a fair margin of profit can be realized.

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Bobcats Defeat Tigers 27 to 25 In Rough Game

Rolling up a nine-point lead in the first half through the use of a five-man scoring attack and a tight defense, Union High school was able to weather the final quarter last night and nose out the Tigers of La Grande 27 to 25 in an unusually rough basketball game.

Union dominated the play throughout the first two periods, with Frather, Baum, Tallman, Conklin and

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Utterstrom Winner Of Skiing Event

LAKE PLACID, N. Y., Feb. 10 (AP)—Sven Utterstrom, of Sweden, world 50 kilometer champion, today won the first of the Olympic ski events, the 18 kilometer cross country run, beating the defending champion Johan Grottnesbraaten, of Norway, who finished sixth and collapsed on the line. Utterstrom's time for the course, about 12 miles, was one hour, 23, minutes, 7 seconds.

Axel Vikstrom, also of Sweden, finished second, exactly two minutes behind Utterstrom, whose time was not considered fast, considering the rather easy course. Veli Saarinen, of Finland, was third.

Private Life of George Washington To Be Presented in L. H. S. Play

The private life of George Washington, apart from his life as a military leader or president, will be pictured in a play, "George Washington," which has been arranged by Miss Besse Pettigrew, to be presented at the La Grande High school assembly on Feb. 22. Most of the dialogue is made of the actual words of Washington, taken from letters, diaries and account books and collected by the author into an interesting picture of the private life of the first president.

The music used is that known by Washington and the dances are those danced in Washington's day, and the characters are, with only a few exceptions, people who were actually related to or known to George Washington, the author states.

The cast includes: Martha Parke Custis Peter, Buehlah Freels; Elizabeth Parke Custis Law,

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ITALY, JAPAN ARE WILLING TO DISARM

Dino Grandi Presents Italian Proposal at Geneva Today.

REJECTS THEORY HELD BY FRENCH

Japanese, Notwithstanding Situation in Far East, as Eager as Ever For Reduction.

By P. I. Lipsey Jr.

GENEVA, Feb. 10 (AP)—Foreign Minister Dino Grandi, of Italy, and Ambassador Taneu Matsudaira, of Japan, presented the last two of the disarmament proposals of the five great powers to the world conference today.

The young black-bearded Italian foreign minister, believed to be the youngest delegate to the conference, brought thunders of applause from the floor as he tolled off a long list of war implements Italy stands ready to scrap. The list included capital ships, submarines, aircraft carriers, heavy artillery, tanks, bombing aircraft and chemical warfare weapons.

He also proposed a revision of the laws to protect civilian populations. In international quarters afterward the Italian plan was hailed as the first proposal for "real disarmament."

Ambassador Matsudaira, chief of the Japanese delegation, assured the conference, in the shortest speech delivered by the representative of any of the great powers, that "notwithstanding the unfortunate situation in the Far East Japan is as eager as ever to further the cause of disarmament."

He said the Japanese delegation had come to co-operate with all the powers and that Japan favors a reduction in the size of battleships and the caliber of their guns, reduction of tonnage of airplane carriers, strict limitation of the use of all classes of war vessels, prohibition of air bombardments and of the use of poison gases and bacteria.

"Moral Disarmament" Plan
August Zaleski, Polish representative, presented a plan for "moral disarmament." He said Poland would offer a formal program under which later and that Ambassador Hugh Gibson, of the United States, "forcibly reminded us yesterday of the best guarantee of security consists in our neighbors' good will."

Signor Grandi's address brought three especially enthusiastic outbursts of applause when he said his country was willing to prolong the London naval treaty, to do everything possible toward bringing about actual disarmament, and to abolish

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Congress To Be Asked To Okeh Warship Measure

Bill to Come Before Present Session, Vinson Says—Hoover Seeks to Loosen Credit.

IN WASHINGTON TODAY

Congressman Vinson pushing warship construction bill. President Hoover begins move to liberalize federal reserve bank rules. Secretary Hurley speaks against Philippine independence. Non-partisan move to loosen credit situation launched by President Hoover.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—Chairman Vinson of the house naval committee said today congress will be asked to approve his \$616,250,000 warship construction bill before the present session ends.

The measure, which would authorize 120 new vessels, already has been approved by the committee. A request for house action, however, was delayed because of the depleted condition of the treasury.

"I feel now that we should go ahead and present the bill to congress as soon as possible," Vinson said.

"As soon as the tax bill and the annual navy department appropriation bill are out of the way, I shall ask the committee to permit me to go ahead."

The construction bill probably can be reached by April.

"The Geneva conference already has shown that it cannot accomplish much," Vinson said.

"I see no reason for delaying any longer a bill that would give up a debt big enough to maintain a satisfactory defense."

WOULD LIBERALIZE RULES

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—President Hoover began a move today to liberalize federal reserve bank rules to make eligible for rediscount paper held by small banks which is not now capable of being turned into cash.

In a series of bi-partisan conferences with leaders of both houses of congress, he outlined his plans and it was agreed that a Democrat, Senator Glass of Virginia, would introduce such a bill later in the day.

By broadening the base of paper eligible for rediscounting, it is the belief of the government financial leaders that immediate aid will be extended to small banks that have borrowed to their limit on eligible paper but have other good security. The emergency legislation now in mind, however, would be only a temporary affair.

CREDIT DRIVE STARTED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—A non-partisan move to loosen the credit situation and strengthen the work of the reconstruction finance corporation was instituted by President Hoover today at an early morning conference with six senators.

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TRIBUTE PAID BY ROTARIAN TO MR. FINLAY

Hugh Brady paid tribute to the memory of one of the Rotary club's most valued members, Peter B. Finlay, at today's luncheon at the La Grande hotel. He dwelt upon Mr. Finlay's strength of character, his optimistic view of the future and the speaker emphasized that his place would be hard to fill.

H. E. Coolidge gave an interesting talk on the financial situation, touching upon the federal reserve system (which he termed as second to none in the world), the reconstruction finance corporation and details of its operation and its opportunities.

Charles Laughlin Stricken Suddenly

Charles Laughlin, who has been in the Grande Ronde valley intermittently since 1897, died suddenly yesterday morning in Herman's lunch room shortly after he entered the place and asked for a glass with which to take some medicine. Heart disease is believed the cause of death. He was about 65 years of age.

Mr. Laughlin, who is well known among many of the long-time residents of the valley, leaves no known relatives. The body is at the Snodgrass and Zimmerman mortuary pending funeral arrangements.

No Hope To Help Feeble Minded Tot

NEW YORK, Feb. 10 (AP)—Mrs. Lillian Moore, 20 years old, had to face today the certainty that her 13-months-old daughter, Diana, will always be feeble minded.

The verdict came last night from a group of specialists who had examined the baby in the hope an operation to enlarge her skull, which had closed at the top prematurely, might relieve pressure on her brain and permit her to develop into a normal human being.

They found, they said, there was no excessive pressure on Diana's brain, which was congenitally underdeveloped, and that an operation would do no good. It would only cause the baby pain and possibly kill her.

WHERE NO MAN WALKED BEFORE!



Barren, icy waters untrod by the feet of men since the world began... then these epical foot-prints in the snow of Pamir Plateau, and a new chapter had been written in the history of exploration!... The tiny figure of a man whom you see climbing Russian Mountains in Central Asia was a member of a daring party of Russian scientists who have just returned to Leningrad with this and other photographs and records of a wilderness region never before penetrated by human beings.

WOUNDED PERSONS CROWD HOSPITALS

More Than 1000 Are Treated at Shanghai, Half of Them Civilians

SHANGHAI, Feb. 10 (AP)—More than 1000 persons, half of them civilians, were suffering from war wounds in Chinese Red Cross hospitals here today, and the wounded continue to pour in from the battle area.

A visit to one of these islands of mercy by the Associated Press correspondent today found its four staff doctors haggard from the strain of working day and night in intimate contact with the grim slide of war—its agony and its pathos.

And it's not merely a soldier's war. Half the injured were coolies, peasants and the like, caught by bombs, shells, and stray bullets.

The wounded from the Chapel area get emergency treatment at a field dressing hospital at Chenju. Here are war torn forms are swathed in bloodsoaked rags and towels and placed row on row on the floor.

The correspondent rode from Chenju hospital to the Chinese general hospital in Shanghai with a load of the wounded. The patients suffered great pain as the vehicles bumped over the rough road through the Chinese lines, but they bore it without an outcry.

This stoicism also was in evidence (Continued on Page Five)

BUSINESS IS SHOWING GAIN JOHN D. SAYS

By Ray Billings (Copyright, 1932, By the Associated Press)

ORMOND, Pa., Feb. 10 (AP)—John D. Rockefeller Sr. told the Associated Press Tuesday indications are that business conditions throughout the country are showing improvement and that he is greatly encouraged.

The 93-year-old philanthropist directed his remarks concerning business to a correspondent while posing for photographs in his garden for the first time since he was taken slightly ill with a cold two weeks ago.

"From talks I have had with prominent men of the country, and reports reaching me from other sources," Mr. Rockefeller said, "indications are that business conditions are improving. For this, I am greatly encouraged."

Mr. Rockefeller showed not the slightest effects from recent confinement because of the cold, as he walked out of his home overlooking the broad Hallifax river and strolled about his tropical gardens.

Road Commission In Meeting Today

SALEM, Feb. 10 (AP)—Consideration of the 1932 highway program and secondary highway matters were scheduled for consideration at the highway commission session in Portland this afternoon. The meeting, although not a secret one, will not be open to delegations, the commission announced last week when the date of the meeting was set.

The meeting is virtually an adjourned session of the important highway conference held last week, and much of the business was set over until today. Roy Klein, state highway engineer, announced. State highway officials from Salem will leave here at noon to attend the meeting.

LESS FIGHTING IN SHANGHAI AREA TODAY

Japanese, However, Unload More Field Guns to Use Against Woosung

CHINESE CAVALRY INFLICT DAMAGE

Horse Troops Repulsed But Not Until Many Japanese Killed; Settlement is Apprehensive.

By James P. Howe

SHANGHAI, China, Feb. 10 (AP)—Tearing across no man's land in an old-fashioned cavalry charge, a Chinese squadron was reported to have inflicted heavy casualties today on the Japanese who have been laying waste to Chapel with artillery.

It was an incident in a comparatively quiet day. The big guns were not firing and although machine guns were in action it was apparent both sides were shifting their lines and no one knew what was going to happen next.

At Woosung, where the Japanese had been trying to blast the enemy loose from the forts at the Whangpoo narrows, the action also had subsided somewhat.

Chinese Flag Flouts
Sometime in the night the Chinese had hoisted their five-barred flag of red, yellow, blue, white and black. It was on the highest flagpole in town and the Japanese gunners were concentrating their fire on it.

The Chinese were reinforcing the trenches which had been battered by raking shell fire from war craft in the river and by airplane bombs.

The Japanese were working hard on a pontoon bridge across Woosung creek, but Chinese machine gunners were not making the job any too easy.

More Field Guns Unloaded
Toward dusk a fleet of trucks backed up to the docks on the outskirts of Shanghai and assisted in the unloading of additional field guns which apparently were to be used against Woosung.

There were indications that part of the Chinese main force had been taken out of the Chapel line and sent over to Woosung. Foreign observers found only two lines of trenches were manned in the north station sector where heretofore there have been three or four. The nearest Chinese support lines were half a mile to the rear.

In the international settlement there was considerable apprehension (Continued on Page Five)

CREWS CLEAR BLOCKED ROAD; FINISH TODAY

BAKER, Ore., Feb. 10 (Special)—The county had cleared Tuesday more than half of the section of the Medical Springs road that has been blocked in the Missouri Flat district for the last few days. County Judge Charles E. Baird announced. The crew is expected to complete the work today.

An caterpillar, grader, truck and other county equipment has been placed in operation on the road, which is filled with snow in some sections to a depth of six feet. The crew has been working on the road since Saturday noon. The road will not be completely cleared of snow, but enough is expected to be removed to allow one-way traffic.

Baker Young Men In Fistic Battle

BAKER, Ore., Feb. 10 (Special)—Four Baker young men were arrested by city police officers Monday about midnight in a Main street cafe for engaging in a free-for-all fight. Jimmy Mast Hammond was injured so severely he was given treatment by a doctor. Hammond was confined to his home Tuesday so that his trial and the trials of the other three men on charges of disorderly conduct were set for today.

Robert McGinnis and Floyd Horner are alleged by officers to have been "beating up" on Hammond in the kitchen of the cafe when a waitress asked Jimmy Stilling to stop the fight. In the scuffle Stilling injured his right hand. Police were called and arrested the four men. Officers believe that Hammond was struck with some object during the fight.

Intense Cold Hits Most of Europe

LONDON, Feb. 10 (AP)—Intense cold came to most of Europe today accompanied by snow flurries, and numerous deaths were reported from various cities.

London had its first snowfalls of any consequence while Paris reported brisk snow flurries this morning. Bucharest dispatches said the bitterest cold in years prevailed in many sections of Rumania with numerous deaths from freezing reported.

Five Nuns, 12 Pupils Escape From Fire

RUSTICO, P. E. I., Feb. 10 (AP)—Five nuns and 12 pupils escaped in night attire early today when fire destroyed a large convent and Catholic boarding school here. An early checkup indicated there were no casualties.

Chicago, Feb. 10 (AP)—Enlarged demand for North American wheat led to price advances today after moderate downturns.

Upward of 1,000,000 bushels of Canadian wheat were estimated to have been bought today for Europe, making about 2,750,000 bushels so far this week, in addition to 600,000 bushels of United States hard winter wheat taken for shipment abroad. There also were scattered reports of crop damage.

Wheat closed firm 3/4¢ over yesterday's finish, corn 1/4¢ up, oats unchanged to 1/4¢ off, and provisions varying from 12 cents decline to 5 cents advance.

Wheat Today