

## OPTIMISM TO RULE SPRING OPENING HERE

Exhibition of New Styles  
Tuesday Will Usher  
in Better Year.

## BAND WILL PLAY DURING EVENING

Spring Opening to Serve  
as Forerunner of More  
Progressive Period For  
La Grande.

Optimism will rule the city of La Grande tomorrow night, ushered in by the annual Spring Opening sponsored by merchants of the city, and local people are confident the optimistic attitude will continue to exist and grow during the coming year.

Better times are in store during 1932, economic observers throughout the nation declare emphatically, and with these predictions combined with the end of the winter weather, it is felt that the community will show definite progress during the next several months in its quest of normalcy.

The Spring Opening, coming as it does at the conclusion of the first full day of spring—spring arrived today but not until several hours after midnight, will serve as a forerunner of a period expected to be much more progressive than any during the recent 12 months.

The styles themselves, particularly those for the fairer sex, reflect this spirit of optimism with their bright colors and delightful accessories.

The Spring Opening, devoted to display of the newest modes in men's and women's wear and in home furnishings, will begin at 7:30 o'clock tomorrow night with Adams avenue from Chestnut to Greenwood streets roped off for the event.

A musical program, given by the La Grande band, will be another feature of the evening.

The Observer, as a preliminary to the Spring Opening, is appearing today with a special section, with much of its news and advertising columns

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## SPRING TERM AT E. O. N. IS OPENED TODAY

Registration for the spring term at the Eastern Oregon Normal school opened this morning and continued throughout the day. No basis on which to base the number of students for the coming term can be determined for a few days, President H. E. Inlow announced this morning. Several new students are enrolling for the new term, however. Classes will start tomorrow morning, with the majority of them continuing through from the winter term. No changes have been made in the personnel of the faculty.

## Henning Presides At Lions Meeting

Fred Henning, vice president of the Lions club, became presiding officer at today's luncheon at the Scaevola by reason of the departure of President Max Sarvis from La Grande to Winnipeg, Man.

The club voted to send both E. L. Towler and Mr. Sarvis resolutions of appreciation for their memberships here and also send Mr. Sarvis a past president's pin.

Mr. Henning appointed Jack Ferris, Dr. Clarence Gilstrap, Lot Snodgrass and Marcus Roesch as members of a standing aviation committee.

## Encampment Gives Its Annual Dance

The Encampment of the I. O. O. F. will hold its annual dance for Odd Fellows and their wives tonight at the I. O. O. F. hall with members of the several branches of the order to serve a potluck supper at 6:30 o'clock preceding the dance. The Ladies Auxiliary to the Cantons will serve lunch after the dance. Special music has been arranged for.

The Encampment is a higher branch of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

## WEATHER FORECAST

Oregon: Partly cloudy to night and Tuesday; unsettled with rain; moderate temperature; gentle to moderate south winds offshore.

WEATHER TODAY  
7 a. m.—34 above.  
Minimum: 33 above.  
Condition: Clear.

WEATHER YESTERDAY  
Maximum 47, minimum 34 above.  
Condition: Cloudy. Range—34 degrees.

WEATHER MAR. 21, 1931  
Maximum 55, minimum 42 above.  
Condition: Cloudy, rain .15 of inch. Range—13 degrees.

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## Colder Weather Halts Flood In Eastern Oregon

Conditions in This Section  
Near Normal — North  
Union Inundated Saturday  
Morning.

Colder weather over the weekend thoroughly checked high water in the Grande Ronde river and its tributaries and halted flood conditions that ruled here for two days last week. The minimum dropped to below freezing point in the mountains Saturday and Sunday and in La Grande the mercury slumped to 34 above Sunday morning.

Trains and buses were operating practically on schedule again Sunday and the waters of the river were receding.

Blasting west of La Grande Saturday night was caused by workmen getting out rock for use in controlling the flood waters.

Only 10 of an inch of rain fell after 7 o'clock Saturday morning, and with the halt in precipitation the turning point in the battle to keep the valley "high and dry" occurred.

Conditions today were near normal although soft shoulders on the Old Oregon Trail highway this side of Ferry had been posted to prevent motorists from approaching too near the river side of the road. Some repair work remains to be done on the highway before it will be in the best of condition in spots where damage was done by the overflow.

## NORTH UNION FLOODED

By Mrs. L. Z. Terrall  
(Observer Correspondent)

UNION, Ore., (Special) — Following the heavy rainfall of Friday afternoon and night, Little creek went on a rampage and the north section of Union was inundated for several hours on Saturday. Water covered the east-west highway and lawns were under several inches of water. The service station at the end of Main street was completely surrounded by water which backed up almost even with the threshold. With every indication that the flood would continue to rise, the city finally took measures to check damage by dynamiting.

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## Gralapp Takes Principalship Of High School

Arnold Gralapp, former head of the science department at La Grande High school, began his first day of work as principal of the local institution this morning. He succeeds E. D. Towler, who left Saturday for Astoria where he was to become principal there this morning — just in time to greet Astoria's state high school.

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## Telegraphers Take Action To Stop "Bumping"

HUNTINGTON, Ore., Mar. 21 (Special) — Because of "bumping" among telegraphers of the first and second division of the Union Pacific Railroad company, representatives of the telegraph department of the former second division, Humboldt, are now filing suit in the federal court at Pendleton against their union, the Order of Railroad Telegraphers.

The case, which is unique in union circles, grows out of the failure of the union to enforce an old contract with the O. W. R. & N. which restricted seniority rights "to the division where employed" and where assigned.

The O. W. on June 1 last merged its first and second divisions under one superintendent, eliminating one superintendent for the sake of economy, this being part of its program of retrenchment and consolidation.

In addition the road continued closing stations and abolishing jobs to such an extent that many veteran agents and operators were thrown out of work. Many men on the first division were affected, so that telegraphers are now around Portland found that they must leave their homes, long ago acquired as permanent places of residence.

Amendment Made  
So serious was the displacement of

(Continued on Page Two)

## Red Cross Leader Will Visit Here

W. D. Carlson, national field representative of the Red Cross, will be in La Grande tomorrow and will check on examinations for certificates for swimming instructors and first aid.

## HOUSE VOTES MORATORIUM ON IRRIGATION

Amended Bill Postpones  
All Construction Charges  
Due During 1931.

## COMPROMISE SEEN ON REVENUE BILL

House Party Leaders and  
Anti-Sales Tax, Chief-  
tains Expected to Reach  
Agreement.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 21 (AP) — The house today passed an amended bill to extend a moratorium on construction charges to water users on federal reclamation projects.

The measure postpones all construction charges due in 1931 and half of those for 1932 until the end of the contract period.

It would also extend for a year the time for beginning construction of the Uncompagne, Colo., reclamation project.

Representative Smith (R., Idaho) estimated the 18 month moratorium

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## WEEK'S SERVICES BEGIN TONIGHT

La Grande Observing Holy  
Week — Rev. B. Marcus  
Godwin Speaks Monday

"Holy week should hold the interest of every American citizen who is enjoying the benefits of a Christian civilization," said one of the ministers of the city in speaking of the services arranged by the Ministerial association, for the days of this week, March 21 to 25. "We should rise above the natural reaction against holy days with which their perversion inspired our Puritan ancestors. These days commemorate the most important events of our Lord's life on earth," continued this minister with his thought.

Following is the program as it will be carried out this week.

Monday evening, 7:30 o'clock, in the Central Church of Christ, Seventh street at Pennsylvania avenue, Rev. B. Marcus Godwin, of the Baptist church will speak on "Handwashing or Footwashing."

Tuesday evening, 7:30 o'clock, in the Baptist church, Sixth street at Spring street, Rev. Edwin Bracher of the Lutheran church will speak on "Come Unto Me."

Wednesday evening, 7:30 o'clock, in the Presbyterian church, Washington avenue at Sixth street, Rev. A. J. Starmer, of the Methodist Church South will speak on "Christ's Kingdom Established Among Men."

Thursday evening, 7:30 o'clock, in the Presbyterian church, Washington

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## ELKS TO GIVE MINSTREL FOR BAKER LODGE

A blackface minstrel, pretty dancers and extremely funny comedians will journey to Baker tomorrow night to present a program at a meeting of the Elks lodge, according to Sherwood Williams, exalted ruler. The program is sponsored by the La Grande Elks.

A minstrel show will open the program at Baker, with eight blackface comedians taking part — Herbert Browning, Robert Carey, Norman Deslett, Victor Eckley, Claude Berry, Wren Howell, Rube Zweifel and Raymond O. Williams. Music will be furnished by a nine quartet—Sherwood Williams, George Birnie, E. E. Hurley and Paul Knautz.

Alice Jeannette and Maelizabeth Cooper will furnish a violin act. A tap dance will be presented by Dorothy and Virginia Campbell, and a group of dances will be arranged by Miss Helen Mary Clark. Tony Smith, of Union, will sing a group of songs, and Ben Lyon, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Lyon, will sing.

A number of other Elks plan to accompany the entertainers.

## Sunshine Returns to Grande Ronde This Morning as Springtime Arrives

Spring was just around the corner yesterday but today it had officially arrived—at least the calendar says so. And by way of verification, the morning started off bright and clear, and with danger of further floods in this section apparently dissipated by colder weather over the weekend.

And now for a little check-up on the four and a half month winter which has just passed.

Total snow, 55 1/2 inches.  
Total moisture, 14.05 inches.  
Total clear days, 20.  
Total days with rain or snow, 75.  
Total days with snow, 48.  
Total days with maximum 32 above or less, 40.  
Maximum, 62. (On Nov. 1 the maximum was 71 but last winter had not set in at that time).  
Minimum, 6 below.  
Range, 68 degrees.  
Average rainfall for La Grande for

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## BOLD BREAK FROM PRISON SHORT-LIVED

Delivery of Three From  
Lincoln County Jail  
Meets With Failure

## SEVEN MORE MEN PLACED IN CELL

Mysterious Tip to Officers  
Results in Capture of  
Fugitives and Stolen  
Liquor.

TOLEDO, Ore., Mar. 21 (AP)—A bold delivery from the Lincoln county jail here early yesterday of three prisoners facing trial on federal liquor charges and the hijacking of a large quantity of liquor held as evidence enjoyed but a short-lived success.

After a few hours of freedom the three prisoners were again in jail and the seven men whom police charged with having effected the delivery by means of an acetylene torch outfit were also behind bars, three here and four in Tillamook.

William Kerr, Charles Ryall and Stanley Babcock, all claiming to be from Vancouver, B. C., were the three prisoners facing federal charges after their capture in Portland more than a month ago following the wrecking and burning of their motor craft, the Sea Island, at Whale Cove Feb. 7.

Seven men riding in a sedan and two trucks arrived at the jail about midnight Saturday. The acetylene torch outfit which police say they

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## SCOUTS PLAN FOR BANQUET HERE APRIL 1

The parents and sons' banquet given by the Boy Scouts in honor of their fathers and mothers, will be an event of April 1, at 6:30 at the Methodist church. Tickets for the dinner are selling rapidly and a large group of parents plan to attend.

A court of honor will follow the banquet, and several Boy Scouts will receive merit badges. A board of review will be held March 28.

Dr. R. F. Murphy and A. W. Nelson will be the principal speakers at the banquet. Additional numbers on the program will be six stunts, three dealing with scouting and three humorous.

The summer camp committee will meet the latter part of this week to make further plans for the summer camp which will probably be held at Wallowa lake. They will make an attempt to make the camp self supporting, and run on a nominal cost. A tentative director has been secured, and the camp will probably continue for two weeks. Members of the committee are C. W. Binger, Dr. R. F. Murphy, A. W. Nelson, Harvey Carter and Elmo Stevenson.

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## Cherry Council To Perfect Its Organization

THE DALLES, Ore., Mar. 21 (AP)—Delegates from Royal Anne cherry districts of California, Oregon, Washington and Idaho who initiated plans for a Pacific coast cherry council here Feb. 22, will meet in Portland next Monday when it is proposed to make the organization permanent.

Wallace S. Nelson, executive manager of the chamber of commerce here, who was loaned by the chamber directorate to the tentative organization for 30 days, will present plans of operation and a proposed budget.

At the recent The Dalles meeting it was ascertained that the Pacific coast annual average yield of white cherries now reaches 20,000 tons. Canners consume about 8,000 tons per year. Growers and their sales organizations, as a result of the tariff on imported brined and barreled cherries, have been able to rid themselves of a surplus.

## C. E. Huff Defends Salaries of Board

WASHINGTON, March 21 (AP)—C. E. Huff, of Chicago, president of the Farmers National Grain corporation, today defended the salaries paid officials of his organization.

He told a senate committee only seven men in the corporation would be affected by the bill of Senator Borah (R., Idaho) to cut farm board salaries and limit the pay of officials of borrowing organizations to \$15,000.

"The mishandling of a single day's business would cost as much as their combined salaries for the entire twelve months," Huff asserted, contending that executives "to be induced to leave their own business must be paid reasonably adequate salaries."

## Milnor In Paris To Dispose of Wheat

PARIS, Mar. 21 (AP)—George S. Milnor, president of the United States grain stabilization board, is due here tomorrow to try to sell France 12,000,000 bushels of wheat to supply the country's needs between now and September.

Milnor has been buying heavily from Canada and Argentina in the past few months and Mr. Milnor will confer with Ambassador Edge about the prospects of selling some farm board wheat.

## White-Robed Group Whips Wife-Beater

SHENANDOAH JUNCTION, Va., Mar. 21 (AP)—While a fiery cross burned on a hill in the distance, a dozen white-robed and hooded men publicly whipped Lloyd Barron, 35, Saturday night.

Barron was lashed to a telephone pole and whipped by four or five men until he begged for mercy.

## THE LATEST HAT FAD



Add to the belts, the necklace, etc., the cellophane hat. Woven in alternate squares with black and white straw, the new bonnets are quite the demerit cri on the beaches near Hollywood. And here's Ruth Hall, filmusee, showing they're fetching.

## Defenders Of Churches Slain By Soviet Guns

BUCHAREST, Rumania, Mar. 21 (AP)—Reports reaching here from Rumania today said a number of women were shot down, while defending their churches, by soviet troops in a "bloody Sunday" yesterday.

The reports described alleged eyewitness accounts of soviet church-wrecking activities which were resisted by the villagers.

In the Ukrainian village of Tsaslak, across the river from the Rumanian village of Kitzani, they said, soviet soldiers attempted to destroy a church and were faced by a crowd of 300 women. The soldiers fired their machine guns and killed and wounded several, the reports said.

Another report from the Rumanian military post at Mihaiesti said the soviet soldiers "could be clearly seen" shooting down 15 peasants, including several women, while the latter were trying to defend the holy cross in the village square at

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## 11 AMERICANS UNHURT AFTER BANDIT ATTACK

MEXICO CITY, March 21 (AP)—Eleven Americans had arrived at their destination in Mexico safe, but late today after escaping from bandits who wrecked an international passenger train yesterday near Maricaca, Queretaro state.

The train carried three Pullman cars from St. Louis and San Antonio. The fireman and an express messenger were killed, but soldiers, acting as a train escort routed the bandits before they could rob the passengers.

The wreck was caused by a rail which the bandits had loosened and which fell on the train. The train was stopped at a station near the wreck. The bandits, about 30 in number, closed in. The detachment of soldiers was immediately organized and drove back the attackers, killing one of them.

In the checkup the conductor was missing but he soon appeared on an engine from Maricaca with more soldiers who joined in the pursuit.

The motive for the attack was supposed to have been robbery although former provisional president, Emilio Portes Gil, on his way back to Mexico from France, would have been aboard the train had he continued direct to Mexico City after leaving Laredo.

## Business Men Of Gold Beach, Ore., Are Flying Kites

GOLD BEACH, Ore., Mar. 21 (AP)—Visitors to this coast city might believe their eyes when they see local business men romping about flying kites.

The simple explanation is, however, that Gold Beach grade school pupils are planning a kite-flying contest here Friday afternoon and many prominent men of the community, having caught the spirit, are building and flying kites in preparation.

## Roosevelt Strong In Oregon, Claim

NEW YORK, March 21 (AP)—Carl C. Donough, chairman of the Oregon Democratic state committee, in a letter received at Roosevelt headquarters today characterized Oregon as "absolutely safe" for Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt in his pre-convention campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination.

In a letter for James A. Farley, chairman of the New York state Democratic committee and Governor Roosevelt's unofficial campaign manager, Donough denied a rumor which he said had been circulated that he had "come out" for Speaker John Garner, also a potential candidate.

## PLANE CRASH IS FATAL TO SEVEN

Los Angeles-Bound Trans-  
port Plane Hits Power  
Line at Redlands, Cal.

REDLANDS, Cal., March 21 (AP)—A coroner's jury was to meet here this afternoon at 2 o'clock to hear witnesses relate how the Los Angeles-bound transport of the American Airways, apparently trapped by a fog that filled San Geronimo Pass, struck a power line as it flew close to the ground and caught fire, causing the death of its seven occupants.

The witnesses to the crash, which took place Saturday evening include ranchers who rushed to the scene and attempted to extricate the men trapped in the flaming skeleton of the big tri-motored plane.

One of the passengers, Arthur R. Thomas, 35, of Tucson, Ariz., was pulled from the wreckage still alive.

"I don't know how it happened," gasped Thomas shortly before he died yesterday. "There was an awful crash—then I found myself outside."

Besides Thomas the dead are: Ralph L. Robinson, 40, Yonkers, N. Y.; Hugh A. McKellar, 42, Los Angeles; Bernie M. Goldstein, 40, St. Louis; Albert Coburn, 21, New York; Pilot Harpold J. Kelsey, Los Angeles; and Co-pilot H. H. Campbell, Dallas, Texas.

The accident took place in an open field near the little town of Calimesa, southeast of Redlands. The plane was bound from Phoenix, Ariz.

## Spring Brings Snowflakes To Eastern States

Winter Weather Reported  
From Atlantic Seaboard  
to the Rocky Mountain  
States.

By The Associated Press  
Belated winter blew a spiteful blast at nascent spring today.

Snow dropped, almost generally, from the Atlantic seaboard to beyond the Rocky mountains.

High winds and rough seas troubled Southern California. Trees blew down and high tension wires snapped in Los Angeles.

The "worst" blizzard of the year swept south of Colorado Springs, Colo., and four persons were missing in a motor car.

Snowplows in Use  
Philadelphia brought out railroad and trolley snowplows for the first time this year. Traffic was hampered.

Perries on the Delaware groped cautiously through blinding flakes.

Frank thunder and lightning startled Chicago's north sides. Snow hit the Loop and later became general.

Dawn found several inches of snow on the ground at Cleveland, the storm still blowing sand, snow and spring arrived simultaneously in Pittsburgh.

Snow in New York  
New Yorkers put on rubbers and hoisted umbrellas against heavy, soggy flakes.

Representative temperatures at 8 a. m., were New York 28, Portland, Me., 22, Montreal 14, Cleveland 24, Chicago 28, Kansas City 30, Seattle 42, Los Angeles 52, Atlanta 54.

The weather bureau said an area of low pressure developed over the Southern Rocky mountain section Saturday and appeared as a well formed depression over the Texas panhandle last night with rain and snow reported to the north and east.

Official forecasts were for continuation of the snow in the New York area this afternoon and tonight.

Snow blanketed Central and South-eastern South Dakota to a depth of 14 inches in at least one place today, bringing relief to farmers with the assurance of sufficient moisture to give the crops a good start.

Mitchell and the surrounding territory experienced the heaviest fall in the spring storm—14 inches.

## Red Johnson EXONERATED IN KIDNAP CASE

Man Suspected of Lind-  
bergh Child Theft Given  
to Immigration Men.

JERSEY CITY, N. J., Mar. 21 (AP)—Henry (Red) Johnson, suitor of Betty Gow, the Lindbergh baby's nurse, was exonerated by local police today of any complicity in the kidnaping. Johnson was picked up shortly after the kidnaping and was later subjected to lengthy examination here and in Newark.

He was taken to Hopewell Saturday for questioning by Col. Charles A. Lindbergh and later returned here for grilling throughout the weekend.

Chief of Police Thomas Wolfe announced today Johnson was entirely cleared and would be turned over to immigration authorities without delay. He said Fred Johnson, a brother, also had been exonerated and would be given to the immigration men. Both brothers were said to have entered the country illegally.

NOTES CAUSE EXCITEMENT  
HOPEWELL, N. J., Mar. 21 (AP)—Investigators in the Lindbergh kidnaping case were excited for a time today by two notes, supposed to have been found on carrier pigeons. One was quickly revealed to be a hoax and the other could not be verified.

The investigators were cautious without any tangible result in their long search for the missing baby.

The ten o'clock bulletin of the New Jersey state police, issued by Col. E. Norman Schwarzkopf, told of the two notes. Several hours later boys in East Stroudsburg, Pa., admitted writing one of them as a prank and tying it to the leg of a dead pigeon.

The other note was reported to have been in code and found on a bird beaten down in a storm in Connecticut. The informant of the police

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