

L. H. S. FIRE DAMAGE HEAVY

LOSS IS ESTIMATED AT ABOUT \$150,000; FIRE CAUSED BY INCENDIARY

School Board Expects to Open Classes Sometime Next Week, Using Churches, Other Available Buildings; Work of Rebuilding Is Expected to Start Immediately

The La Grande high school, partially destroyed by fire in November, 1928, was damaged to an even greater extent last night by flames of an incendiary origin. Estimates as to the loss this morning ranged from \$125,000 to \$150,000.

The flames literally gutted the upper floor and the auditorium and destroyed the music room built on top of the structure. The first floor and basement are damaged heavily by water and it appeared likely that most of the interior of the building will have to be reconstructed. Rebuilding is expected to start as soon as possible.

The school building was insured fully, and most of the loss will be covered. However, the additional cost of holding classes outside of the school building; plus inconvenience, etc., undoubtedly will cost the school district several thousand dollars in addition.

The school board was to meet this afternoon to make plans for conducting of school, reconstruction of the building, etc., but this morning it was believed that high school classes would be started sometime next week, possibly but not probably on Monday. The same plan used in the winter of 1928-29 will be followed and today the Presbyterian, Methodist, L. D. S. churches and others had made offers of use of their buildings to the board of education.

Practically all of the equipment on the first floor and basement with the exception of furniture and a piano in the auditorium was saved, but almost all of the equipment, including a piano, was destroyed in the music room and upper floor.

Inadequate fire fighting facilities plus a stiff breeze made the flames difficult to conquer, although the fire department, with its big pumper, performed a very efficient job. Additional equipment of a hook-and-ladder nature, etc., would have made the fire comparatively easy to extinguish shortly after its start, many said.

The crowd of thousands of people who witnessed the fire last night was incensed at the thought of the action of the fire bug responsible for the destructive blaze. It was the third time this summer the school has

STUDENTS TO REPORT MONDAY MORNING

All high school students—new, advanced, freshmen, etc.—are to report at the L. D. S. Recreational hall at 9 o'clock Monday morning. It was announced today by Supt. J. T. Longfellow. Details of enrollment will be announced at that time. Hopes are held this afternoon that regular classes will be started early next week.

Set in Typewriting Room

Officials found where the fire had started in the typewriting room. Kindling, paper, etc., had been placed in an air duct and ignited, and the flames had rushed up to the upper floor and music room, smoldering while before breaking out.

A window was open in the type-

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ELKS '49 SHOW WILL BE HELD OCTOBER 19-22

The B. P. O. Elks Days of '49 show will be held Oct. 19-22, inclusive, it was announced today by the committee. The show will be staged in the Sacajawea Inn.

The committee has been preparing for the benefit event for the last few weeks, and is expecting the show this fall to surpass those given in previous years.

Proceeds of the '49 show are used each year to finance the Christmas tree for the children of the community and to furnish baskets of provisions for needy families in the La Grande district.

WEATHER FORECAST

Oregon: Fair tonight and Friday; cooler in the interior tonight; warmer in the south-west portion Friday; moderate north and northwest winds offshore.

WEATHER TODAY

7 a. m.—56 above.
Minimum: 55 above.
Condition: Partly cloudy.

WEATHER YESTERDAY

Maximum 93, minimum 55 above.
Condition: Clear. Range: 38 degrees.

WEATHER, SEPT. 8, 1931.

Maximum 64, minimum 42 above.
Condition: Cloudy, rain 51 of inch. Range: 22 degrees.

Public Building Program Will Be Cut \$10,000,000

Secretary Mills Makes Statement Today in Washington—Officials Ask for Reconsideration

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8 (AP)—Secretary Mills said today that under the ruling of Comptroller-General McCarl the \$100,000,000 public building program in the Garner-Wagner relief act would be reduced to \$90,000,000.

The announcement of the program and its various projects is expected by Secretary Mills to be made public at the White House shortly. However, the treasury had declined to say whether he had certified to President Hoover that the public finances could not afford to undertake the program at this time, an alternative allowed him by the relief act.

Mills said that while McCarl had not ruled on the entire \$922,000,000 public works section of the relief act, other officials of the treasury said that McCarl would make the same ruling under the provisions of the economy act to the public roads, flood control, army housing and other provisions.

Mills expressed the opinion that while the limit of cost on public buildings would be cut ten per cent and that \$10,000,000 would be topped off the entire amount, the ruling would not interfere with the progress of the public building program. Should McCarl apply the ten per cent reduction to the entire program \$22,000,000 would be slashed from the relief bill. Treasury officials tentatively decided today to ask the comptroller-general to reconsider his ruling.

COMMISSION TO VISIT LA GRANDE

Scott, Aldrich, Baldock and Glaisyer to Hold a Meeting Here

Two members of the state highway commission, Chairman Scott and Commissioner E. B. Aldrich, accompanied by R. H. Baldock, engineer, and Mr. Glaisyer, secretary, will be in La Grande Saturday night and will hold an informal meeting with La Grande, Union and Wallowa county people at 8 o'clock at the Sacajawea Inn.

Wallowa county, Elgin, Union, Cove, North Powder and all other communities in Union county are invited to attend. This is the first opportunity for local people to meet with Chairman Scott.

The commissioners will attend the Pendleton Round-Up Saturday afternoon and then come here. They will go on to Baker on Sunday and on Monday are scheduled to hold an executive meeting in the Copper City.

COUNTY COURT HEARS PLEAS ON ROAD WORK

Three delegations went before the county court with pleas yesterday at the opening day of the September session in the office of County Judge U. G. Couch. They finished auditing the monthly bills this morning and started on the docket this afternoon.

Citizens from North Powder asked the court to improve the North Powder road, and it was decided that the improvements will be made as soon as money is available. Union and Ponderosa representatives asked that the district boundary board and the court approve the price set for establishment of bus lines for high school students in both towns. The price was approved.

Brady Nomination Filed Wednesday

SALEM, Sept. 8 (AP)—The certificate of nomination of Hugh E. Brady, of La Grande, as an independent candidate for representative in congress from the second congressional district was filed with the secretary of state yesterday.

Brady was nominated by an assembly of electors in Union county September 3. The assembly adopted the political principle "a new order."

Brady will oppose Walker Pierce, Democrat, and Robert R. Butler, Republican, incumbent, at the November election.

Another Fire At Elgin; Barn Burns

By Mrs. Lynn Hill
ELGIN (Special)—The large red barn which stands near the bridge on the highway as one enters Elgin was completely destroyed by fire Tuesday evening at about 11 o'clock. It is believed that the fire was set by tramps who were sleeping in the building, as some have been run out of the building twice before and the flames apparently started in a corner where there was some hay.

The building which was quite large and a very good barn, was the property of F. J. Goff, who, it is reported, carried insurance.

BIG PARTIES ARE BATTLING FOR CONTROL

Intensive Campaign Under Way to Get Upper Hand in New Congress

LEADERS CONFER AS DRIVE BEGINS

Republicans Expect Indiana, Illinois and Ohio Will Become a Major Battleground.

By Francis M. Stephenson
WASHINGTON, Sept. 8 (AP)—An intensive campaign for congressional control is being launched in the wake of the quadrennial presidential drive.

It included today consultations with leaders of both major parties over the contested command of capitol hill.

Senator Swann of Virginia, chairman of the Democratic senatorial committee, was in New York for conferences with James A. Farley, chairman of the Democratic national committee. His next scheduled stop was Albany, where he said presidential and senatorial campaign plans will be reviewed with Governor Roosevelt.

Only yesterday, Senator Watson, the Republican leader, and Senator Hatfield, chairman of the Republican senatorial campaign committee, conferred with President Hoover and reported that senatorial contests had been surveyed.

Where the two parties will direct their principal efforts for the congressional elections still was a matter of speculation to capitol observers. But Watson, a candidate for re-election in Indiana, gave it as his opinion that senatorial campaigns could be

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BUILDERS WILL MEET HERE AT INN AT 8 P. M.

For the purpose of organizing a local chapter of the Oregon Building Congress, O. G. Hugheson, state organizer of Portland, and Prof. W. J. Gilmore, of agricultural engineering at Oregon State college, are in La Grande today. They will hold a meeting at the Sacajawea Inn at 8 p. m. tonight to which all builders, architects, lumber men, mechanics, plumbers, contractors, dealers and all others interested in building are invited to attend.

The congress has chapters now in Portland, Eugene and Salem, all operating efficiently in an advisory capacity and to which city ordinances, etc., often are referred for approval or rejection. The fundamental object of the organization is educational, with better building and construction as its aim.

Farmers Compete In Fair Contest

Five valley farmers already have expressed their intention of competing in the individual display feature of the Grande Fair and Home Product show at the L. D. S. Recreational hall on Sept. 21 and 22. The exhibit, which will be a feature of the fair, will include displays of many different kinds of produce arranged by the exhibitor.

Those who have entered the competition thus far are: C. P. Edverson, of Union; Frank King, May Park; Clyde Metcalf, May Park; Mrs. Ruckman, of near La Grande; and Roy Gekeler, of La Grande.

J. D. Woodell, president, and Roy Gekeler, secretary, of the fair board, are contacting business men in Union, North Powder and Telocast today in the interest of the fair.

Kerr Promises "Square Deal"

All in Readiness For Opening Of Annual Fall Flower Show Tomorrow

The stage is set for the annual fall flower show sponsored tomorrow by the Neighborhood club at the La Grande hotel. Mrs. John Thiesen, general chairman, announces. Yard judging is being conducted today along entirely new lines suggested by Mrs. A. T. Hill, Mrs. R. P. Murphy and Mrs. Walter Leisner, and the judges, who will be announced following the contest, will base their decisions on the attractiveness, the neatness and the utility of the lawn.

Mrs. A. L. Richardson, program chairman, announced the musical program for both the afternoon and the evening today and numbers for the former include:

Selected. Mrs. Floyd Sherwood "Roses Are In Bloom" Bond "The Shoozy Shoo" Mayhew Mrs. Mervill Moore, accompanied by Mrs. Harvey St. Johns. Primi

SEEK PEACH QUEEN HONORS



We'll agree, they're all peaches. But from the five, Brigham City, Utah must select one to be "Miss Box Elder Peach" to rule the peach days show there tomorrow and Saturday. Left to right, top, Grace Glover, Eleanor Merrell, Maurine Stone. Lower—Inez Hess and Uarda Mathies.

125 Feet of Pipe Is Installed In City Water Line

During last night's meeting of the city commission, City Manager A. McAllister reported that city workmen had completed installation of 125 feet of steel pipe in the bottom of Whiskey creek, thereby eliminating a weak place in the Beaver creek pipeline.

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16 Driving Licenses Revoked in August

SALEM, Sept. 8 (AP)—Liquor law violations were responsible for all of the 16 revocations of driving licenses made by the state department during the past month, it was announced by Hal E. Hoss, secretary of state, today. August revocations decreased from 38 revoked licenses listed during the same month a year ago.

Reckless driving caused seven of the ten listed suspensions last month, the report continued. The remaining three were penalties caused by one hit and run driver, one failing to report an accident and one contributing to an accident resulting in a fatality.

Bids Rejected On Umpqua Road Job

SALEM, Sept. 8 (AP)—The state highway commission today announced all bids on the Paradise Creek-Bridge section of the Umpqua highway in Roseburg, opened at the last meeting, were rejected. New bids will be called for at the Sept. 28 meeting. Homer E. Johnson of Portland was low bidder for the job at \$62,400.

Other contracts to be let at the meeting this month will bring the value of awards to more than \$700,000, it was estimated by the department. Projects to be let will be definitely announced next week.

New Chancellor Returns To His Corvallis Desk

CORVALLIS, Ore., Sept. 8 (AP)—Dr. W. J. Kerr, chancellor of higher education, returned to his office here early today and almost immediately called a meeting of the Oregon State college administrative council, discussed policies of the immediate future, and left soon after lunch for Eugene with Mrs. Kerr to attend the funeral of Mrs. P. L. Campbell, widow of the former president of University of Oregon.

Before leaving, Dr. Kerr arranged for an informal meeting with deans and division heads on the university campus later this afternoon. This will be his first opportunity to greet leaders on that campus since his appointment.

Those who attended the conference

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Lively Legion Discussions Are Being Expected

"Full and Free Expression" on Bonus Army, Prohibition, Etc., Will Be Permitted.

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 8 (AP)—"Full and free expression" on the bonus, bonus army, prohibition and any other question "which may properly come before a national convention" will be permitted members of the American Legion at the national convention here next week.

This assurance was given by Henry L. Stevens, national commander, who with Mrs. Stevens and their young son arrived here yesterday for a brief pre-convention visit.

"You can be sure that there will be no steam roller tactics applied on this convention by the national officers," Commander Stevens said. "Here ought to be one place that the legionnaire can say what is in his heart. There will be no attempt to hush up the delegates or prevent them from getting things off their chests. There will be no favoritism. I have a theory that the national officers should bow to the will of the convention and not the convention to the will of the national officers. Of course, all business must go through the usual committee channels and be handled in the regular way."

Strong Action Likely
Already reports are circulating here that some strongly-worded resolutions will be presented to the convention. Some of the delegates are known to be coming prepared to ask for action condemning the use of armed force in evicting the bonus

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Prune Growers Expect to Form Big Organization

SALEM, Sept. 8 (AP)—Plans for a state-wide organization of prune growers were laid at a Willamette growers' meeting here last night. A committee representing several Oregon counties and Clarke county, Washington was appointed to bring a preliminary report on organization at a meeting to be held in December.

Opinion at last night's session was that the growers had not organized soon enough. Plans outlined are expected by growers to bring about an organization capable of controlling the Oregon market next year.

Meanwhile growers indicated they would continue to hold out for \$10 a ton for fresh prunes, action decided at last week's meeting. That means \$10 for orchard run and not for only the largest fruit, the group emphasized.

Growers report some local canners to be offering \$10 for top grades of prunes. Others said a cannery was offering \$8.50 a ton for the fruit in for that figure. Some prunes have been sold under that arrangement and others have brought the \$10 figure set by the group. "Some of the canneries have not raised their offers from \$8 a ton. Many growers announced their intentions of drying their crop before selling for that price. Considerable optimism was expressed over the dried prune market."

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Two Drowned In Columbia River

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 8 (AP)—Robert Dyer, 16, and Betty Simmons, 8, both of Portland, drowned in the Columbia river here Wednesday.

The Dyer boy fell into Columbia slough while playing with other boys near the Portland auto camp moorage. The little girl stepped into a deep hole while wading in the river at the foot of Richardson road. Both bodies were recovered.

Murder Suspect Is Sought In Oregon

PORTLAND, Sept. 8 (AP)—State and Portland police were instructed today to be on the lookout for John Moore, 34, said to be wanted in Herscher, Ill., for questioning on a murder charge. The order was issued following a report yesterday that Moore had been seen recently in Eugene with a medicine show.

Police information said Moore is accused of setting fire to a store over which he lived, hoping to collect insurance, the flames killing his small child and a nurse.

Ellsworth Faces Charge of Murder

TILLAMOOK, Ore., Sept. 8 (AP)—The Tillamook county grand jury yesterday indicted Harry Ellsworth, cottage landlord, on a charge of first degree murder for the fatal shooting of P. H. Bergeron, music teacher, last Monday.

Although relatives said Bergeron's name was Alfred L., the indictment gave his name as P. H. Bergeron. District Attorney Barwick said he would try to have the case brought to trial this month.

'32 ROUND-UP IS UNDER WAY IN PENDLETON

Cream of World Champions Competing for Prizes at Event

INDIAN PRINCESS RULES OVER SHOW

Government and State Officials in Stands With Hundreds of Legion Delegates

PENDLETON, Ore., Sept. 8 (AP)—Dust, beaten into small clouds by flying hoofs, the yelps of "top-hands," the whooping of bronzed Indian braves, and the roars of applause from crowded arena stands, today opened the 23rd annual Pendleton Round-Up, epic of the western plains.

Riders, bulldozers, ropers and broncho busters from the Mexican line to the Canadian border, from the Pacific Northwest and the south-western states, brought wild west lovers such thrills as only the Round-Up affords.

World Stars Gather
About all the stars of the rodeo world have gathered for the event, striving for the coveted trophies and money prizes awarded by the Round-Up association and by friends of the show. Among them was Hugh Strickland, arena judge this year, and world champion bronco buster, and roper; Jake McClure, Bob Crosby, permanent possessor of the Roosevelt trophy; Dick Merchant, Pete Knight, Everett Bowman and many others.

Escorted by four Indian maidens and a group of 12 copper-skinned braves, Princess Tall-We-Ton-mi of the Umatilla tribe, reigned as queen of the show. Nearly 2000 spectators from the Umatilla reservation, and participating in the traditional western pageant.

This year the arena seemed filled with nothing but top-ends of the rodeo world. Bronco riding, steer and calf roping and bulldozing trials were replete with championship winners from southwest prairies and Montana's hills. Although the first day crowd usually is not up to the capacity of the stands, officials predict record breaking attendance Friday and Saturday when the riders and other contestants settle down in

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FIVE COUNTY PRISONERS IN NIGHT ESCAPE

VANCOUVER, Wash., Sept. 8 (AP)—Sawing through the bars of two large padlocks and digging their way through a brick wall, six bricks thick, five county jail prisoners escaped last night, going through the jail wall under cover of two large hydrant bushes.

The escaped prisoners are Kermit Minkler, 30, sentenced to 18 months to 15 years at Walla Walla prison for burglary; Louis Jennings, 28, of Portland, charged with first degree assault and attempted holdup; Edwin Bennett, 22, accused of forgery; Fred George, 30, serving a liquor sentence, and Russell Wright, 25, held for petty larceny.

Ten other prisoners in the large cell elected to stay in jail.

Alleged Gambling "Big Shot" Arrested

PORTLAND, Sept. 8 (AP)—Bobby Evans, described by police as "the big shot" among white operators of gambling games here, was arrested last night on a district court warrant charging him with disturbing the peace by operation of a gambling device.

He was released on bail, posted by bondsmen before his arrest.

Police said Evans operated a gambling resort which was raided Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

Wheat Today

CHICAGO, Sept. 8 (AP)—Breaks in cotton values had a decided bearish effect on wheat prices today, causing wheat to dip to 3 1/4 cents under Tuesday's high point.

Rallies, however, ensued owing to evening up for the government grain crop report due tomorrow. Rural deliveries of wheat in Canada continued heavy, more than triple of a year ago.

Wheat closed nervous 3/4 @ 10 under yesterday's finish, corn 3/4 @ 10 down, oats 1/4 @ 10 off, and provisions varying from 1/2c decline to a rise of 2c.

OTTAWA, Ont., Sept. 8 (AP)—An estimate of Canada's wheat crop will be announced by the Dominion bureau of statistics on Saturday. Every indication is that it will be well over 100,000,000 bushels more than last year when the total was 304,144,000 bushels.