

La Grande Is The Gateway to Wallowa, "The Switzerland of America"

# La Grande Evening Observer

Only Newspaper Printed in La Grande Covering Union and Wallowa Counties

VOLUME 32 EASTERN OREGON'S LEADING NEWSPAPER LA GRANDE, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1933 MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS NUMBER 90

# WITH A W OREGON ROAD PROJECTS

## CITY MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR YULETIDE

Churches, Organizations and Individuals Completing Plans.

## TWO-DAY HOLIDAY TO BE HAPPY ONE

More Cheer in La Grande and County This Christmas Time Than For Last Few Years.

Three shopping nights and two shopping days left before Christmas—and La Grande is completing its preparations for the most generous Yuletide here for two or three years. Merchants report a good volume of business; new money coming into La Grande from Uncle Sam's treasury has helped a great deal. Private purse strings have been stretched a little farther than usual, with the returning of confidence in the future.

There is less relief to be done this winter, because of efficient work here of the county relief committee, and the opening of hundreds of C. W. A. jobs.

Extra men have been put to work in the business section to handle the increased shopping demands of the public.

And the unseasonably warm weather.

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## Tigers Tackle King's Squad At Imbler Tonight

About 20 Tiger basketball players, accompanied by Coach Ira Woodie and a number of students who expected to cheer the boys on from the sidelines, were to leave this evening for Imbler. At 8 o'clock tonight the Imbler and La Grande teams were to meet in the Imbler gymnasium.

A battle royal seemed in prospect. Imbler's floor is a bit less regulation size, and may prove a disadvantage.

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## The Story of Christmas



Then the Three Wise Men opened up the treasures which they had borne with them out of the east and presented unto Him their gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh and departed.

## SHOPPING DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS

## NEW CAR LICENSES MAKE APPEARANCE

Bright new aluminum colored license tags have made their appearance in La Grande this week, replacing the 1933 license plates on automobiles. The new plates, made of the same material as the older ones but with a different color, will be good for a year and cost \$5.

## WILL ROGERS SAYS:

BEVERLY HILLS, Cal., Dec. 20 — That Mussolini is a "dorb." Yesterday he interviewed 92 mothers with a gross total of 1288 children, which divides out to about 14 head per each.

While our great slogan for the perpetuation of civilization was "a car in every garage," Mussolini's was "a baby in every arm and more if you can carry 'em." He knows no nation ever became great on garages. You can't win a war in a Ford sedan or repeal an invasion in a Chevrolet coupe.

These other dictators think they are doing some "dictating" when they announce a budget quota, but when you start laying out a maternity quota for the women then you are really in the dictating business. That makes these other dictators look like amateurs. Yours,

Will Rogers

## 250 VIEW PLAY LAST NIGHT AT I. O. O. F. TEMPLE

More than 250 gathered at the Odd Fellows hall last night to witness the presentation of the English comedy, "Freeing a Mother-in-law" which was presented by an excellent cast, directed by R. J. Kitchen.

Dancing followed the play with music furnished by the High school orchestra. Lunch was served by the Rebekahs.

Members of the cast in the play were:

Mr. Watnuff, a harassed husband, Frank Snydam; Mrs. Watnuff, his wife, Mrs. Minnie Bragg; Ferdinand, the nephew, Ed Bork; Emily Watnuff, the daughter, Daphne Bessner; Walter Litherland, who is in love with Emily, Melvin Bork.

## L. H. S. ATHLETES RECEIVE LETTERS

Letter awards were made to 22 members of the first string football team, seven of the second team and the manager this morning at a La Grande High school student body meeting.

Colon E. Eberhard, chairman of the school board, was the principal speaker, comparing the present athletic program with that followed in the past.

Ira Woodie, athletic coach, presented first team letters to Jack Alvey, Victor Bean, Max Bean, Tom Blackman, Bill Cantrell, Earl DeBole, Ralph DeBole, Ralph Floberg, Fred Geising, Jim Halley, Carl Hansen, Norman Hogensen, Sheldon Hyde, Hughey Irwin, Earl Johnson, Orin Osborn, Earl Peterson, Marion Reynolds, Charles Rothwell, Homer Snyder, Don Stitt, Cecil Walden, Kenneth Webb, Robert Webb and Charles Young.

Second team awards were presented to Morris Alexander, Burnette Chausse, Robert Koyle, John Rogers, Sidney Thompson, Herbert Voruz, Howard Zink.

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## CITY DADS HOLD SHORT SESSION

Mostly routine business was handled at last night's city commission meeting, which was not of the lengthy variety.

City Manager Angus McAllister's report showed \$5,500 in improvement bonds retired during the week, and cash on hand to be \$17,159.98, divided as follows: La Grande bank \$13,058.58, Portland bank \$229.22, cash \$649.70, remainder in warrants.

After midnight Dec. 31, it will be illegal to operate an automobile on the highways in Oregon without either a new 1934 set of license plates affixed to the machine, or else a temporary license on the windshield.

## FIGHTS DIVORCE



Here to defend the divorce action brought by her husband, Edward F. W. James, brother of the famous Mrs. Margaret Field, 3rd, Tilly Lusch, internationally known Viennese dancer, is pictured on her arrival in New York from England. She declined to comment on rumors she might wed Prince Serge Obolensky.

## NIGHT WARMEST SINCE OCT. 30

Instead of growing colder as December progresses the weather here has been warming up.

Old timers say it is one of the most unusual periods of winter time here they have seen in many years. And at the fire department, the official weather records reveal that the minimum last night of 48 above was the warmest since Oct. 30, nearly two months ago! Wednesday's maximum was 50 above, and at 7 o'clock this

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## C. B. MILLER TO MANAGE C. W. A. HERE

Will Serve as County Executive — Begins His Duties Today.

## APPOINTMENT IS MADE BY GOUDY

Announcement Also Made That 42 Men Will Go to Work on Glass Hill Job Friday.

Charles B. Miller, of La Grande, and one of the leading architects in the eastern half of the state, was today appointed manager of the Union county civil works. The appointment was made in a wire received this morning from E. R. Goudy, C. W. A. administrator in Oregon.

Mr. Miller, who is well qualified for the managerial work, began his duties today. His most immediate task will be to inspect all projects, co-ordinate work, and systematize them so that a maximum of results will be received.

Headquarters for Mr. Miller will be in the county court house. He will work under the county C. W. A. board, headed by J. H. Pearce, and will assume a large amount of work that heretofore has been saddled onto the board in addition to its regular duties.

Announcement also was made today that with tools purchased, 42 men will go to work tomorrow morning on the Glass Hill road project.

## Cliff McGinnis And State Police Are Even Again

The state police are even with Cliff McGinnis, of Wallowa county, now. You remember Cliff — the Grande Ronde farmer who captured two desperate bank robbers unassisted, recovered their loot, and turned 'em over to the authorities.

Well, several days after his heroic act, his dog, which Cliff set much search by, disappeared. Cliff started a search, going from neighbor to neighbor, but without success.

Finally he went to the forest station and obtained a list of all persons who had entered the forest area near his place about the time the dog turned up missing. Then he sent the list to Sergeant Dick Robertson, sure of the state police.

It was a lengthy list, including both Oregon and Washington men.

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## Defend Drug Act, Under Hot Fire



Fight over the new food, drug and cosmetics act, raging in Senate sub-committee hearings, was climaxed by a demand for resignation of Senator Royal S. Copeland, New York, shown at right, as he and W. O. Campbell, food and drug administrator of the Agriculture Department, examine exhibits of condemned products. Chairman Copeland, witnesses charged, is biased and can not give the bill a fair hearing.

## AMERICAN CLAIMS HE IS INNOCENT OF SPY CHARGES

PARIS, Dec. 21 (AP)—Robert Switz, American citizen, said today he was innocent of connection with a gang of alleged international spies, despite the accusation of French police who have arrested him as a leader, and was "the victim of an error."

Spies of Germany, reportedly master spy system were seen by police today behind the operations of a mysterious band of forty spies in whose alleged network two Americans were caught.

With ten persons under arrest and the investigation broadening outside the borders of France, fears were expressed by authorities that highly valuable documents containing French military secrets already had left the country.

Threads of evidence leading to Berlin were declared to have been indicated in the huge mass of confiscated documents studied by the investigating magistrate.

The discovery of communist documents among the many papers and books seized caused police to believe at first that soviet espionage was involved chiefly, but as the investigation sped forward today officials conjectured it might have been part of the plan to allow such documents to be found.

With these developments, police also said they thought Mr. and Mrs.

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## FRESH STORM HITS OREGON SHORE TODAY

Situation Worse in Washington, However; One Death in Snoqualmie.

By the Associated Press

An unprecedented succession of storms, each bursting upon the other, continued to rake the northern coast today. Rivers rising again at an alarming rate brought new floods to Western Washington, although in Oregon, danger that the Willamette river might flood the Pacific highway between Salem and Portland was less acute after the river receded a few inches during the night.

It was the fifth day of a series of winter storms, accompanied by torrential rains and high gales, which have brought losses in hundreds of thousands of dollars. Southeast storm warnings were displayed at all Oregon and Washington coast stations.

Yesterday's storm brought 1.33 inches of rain to Portland, and then pelted into the interior. The city has had 11.18 inches of rain since Dec. 1, nearly double the normal quota.

River Shipping Halted

Shipping between Salem and Portland was halted because too much water is going over the falls.

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## JUST BEFORE PRESSTIME

VACCINE FOR PARALYSIS

PROMINENT MEN ARRESTED

DECLINES APPOINTMENT

FAMOUS JOCKEY DIES

NEW YORK, Dec. 21 (AP)—The World-Telegram says an immunizing vaccine has been developed which gives concrete grounds to believe that science is on the verge of conquering infantile paralysis.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 21 (AP)—Z. D. Bonner, former president of the Commercial National bank here, and John H. Cunningham, prominent local attorney, were arrested today in connection with a \$250,000 mail robbery in Chicago December 6, 1932.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (AP)—Dr. A. Lawrence Lowell, president emeritus of Harvard university, has written to Hugh S. Johnson declining appointment as a presidential member of the motion picture industry code authority under NRA.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 21 (AP)—Tod Sloan, famous jockey, died here today from a lingering liver ailment. Death occurred at 12:10 p. m.

ATHENS, Dec. 21 (AP)—The Greek government decided today that Samuel Inoull Sr., former Chicago utility operator, must leave Greece, Jan. 31. The alien department notified him the government will make no further extension of Inoull's permit to remain in this country from which the United States seeks to extradite him.

## LEGALITY OF NEW LIQUOR CONTROL ACT FACES TEST

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 21 (AP)—Seeking an injunction against the constitutionality of the Knox liquor bill, providing for the sale of hard liquor through state-owned stores only, the city of Klamath Falls will seek an injunction in Marion county circuit court Friday on the grounds that the law violates the home rule amendments of the state constitution.

Mayer Willis Mahoney, of Klamath Falls, made the announcement of the suit here last night. Mahoney expressed the opinion that if the circuit court issued the injunction, the case will go direct to the supreme court and the question of the constitutionality of the law will be settled within a week. He said he would ask other cities to join with Klamath Falls in the test case.

The mayor of the Southern Oregon city yesterday wired A. L. Leavitt,

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## RUSH OF LIQUOR EXHAUSTS QUOTAS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (AP)—The administration today disclosed that a rush of foreign liquors into the United States had brought a majority of the import quotas near exhaustion, and at the same time moved to combat domestically what Attorney General Cummings described as "A rather wholesale plan to violate internal revenue laws on liquor."

The attorney general told newsmen the entire force of 1,170 prohibition agents will be deputized by the internal revenue bureau to prevent bootlegging and other illegal liquor operations.

Joseph H. Christie Jr., alcohol control administrator, announced that both France and Portugal had exhausted the liquor import quotas allotted them, and that other foreign quotas were nearing that point.

## Canadian Liner Wrecked on Rock

SEATTLE, Dec. 21 (AP)—The crack Canadian National liner Prince George was abandoned by her crew shortly after it had been wrecked on Vado rock in far Northern British Columbia waters and its passengers manning the lifeboats successfully.

Going ashore about 11 p. m. last night, frantic calls for immediate assistance were sent out, and within a short time the vessel's plight became serious. The passengers and part of the crew were ordered to the life boats.

## ANOTHER REFORESTATION ARMY TAKES THE FIELD



## Wheat Today

The price of local cash wheat stood at about 48 1/2 cents bulk today, according to quotations at the Pioneer Flouring Mills, Portland cash 66 cents.

CHICAGO, Dec. 21 (AP)—For the fifth day in succession, wheat today reached lower price levels. May wheat going under 90 cents for the first time since Oct. 29.

The trade was somewhat confused over a material change in the official estimate of the seeded acreage of winter wheat for the 1934 crop. Liquidation developed, and with the stop loss orders caught the market dropped temporarily about 2 cents.

Wheat closed unsettled, 5/8 @ 1 1/2c under, yesterday's finish, corn 3/4 @ 1c advanced, oats 1/2 @ 3/4c up, and provisions unchanged to 5c lower.

## NEW PRICE SCHEDULE FOR DYERS, CLEANERS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (AP)—NRA officials today watched for reactions to the new price schedule ordered in effect tomorrow for dyers and cleaners all over the country, hopeful that objections of virtually all opposing groups had been met.

Instead of drafting a differential in favor of cash and carry stores, the NRA ordered a horizontal cut in all of the schedules promulgated a month ago amounting to roughly 20 per cent, with the provision that cleaners giving high quality service should remain at the old price levels, displaying a special Blue Eagle insignia to identify them as producers of grade A work.

This was the first time NRA had stepped into the field of quality differentiation and reactions to this experiment were particularly sought.

## NEW COURSE IS EXPECTED TO AID STATE

Chairman Scott, of Highway Commission, Announces Plans.

## PLAN TO BORROW IS JUNKED TODAY

Road Building Will Not Stop, as State Will Depend on Regular Federal Aid Funds.

MARSHFIELD, Ore., Dec. 21 (AP)—All Oregon road projects embraced in the proposed federal loan of \$25,000,000 now pending before the public works administration will be withdrawn.

This proposed loan has no bearing on the independent loan being arranged for financing construction of the five Oregon coast highway bridges.

The announcement was made by Leslie M. Scott, chairman of the state highway commission, who last night conferred by telephone with Governor Meier, vacationing in San Francisco. The action was in line with refusal of the legislature to pass an act guaranteeing highway revenues to repay the loan, and in accord with the fixed policy of the commission to incur no additional highway debt.

The highway commission yesterday concluded its visit to coast cities on the question of arranging for location of approaches for the five coast

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## Seek To Prove Rich Spinster Of Unsound Mind

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 21 (AP)—Testimony that the late Margaret A. Keith, wealthy and eccentric spinster, once wanted to pay \$285,000 for the Beverly Hills mansion which was finally purchased for her for \$110,000 less was given a jury in superior court at the trial of contests brought by relatives to invalidate her will.

The contestants claim the woman, who ended her own life, was of unsound mind.

Paul M. Woods, brother-in-law of Miss Keith, stated that Miss Keith wrote a check for \$285,000 for second pictures of the home. Woods said he destroyed the check and negotiated for the purchase of the residence at a price of \$176,000.

In appreciation of his act, Woods stated Miss Keith offered him \$30,000, which he refused. Later, he said, she gave him a check and told him to buy an expensive automobile. He stated he got the car and drove it to Miss Keith's home for her to see, whereupon she drew a revolver and ordered him to get out and leave the car. He said he took the pistol away from her, threw it on the floor and left, leaving the car in front of the house.

Trial of the suit will continue today.