

December Retail Business Here Shows Big Increase

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

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AMERICAN WARSHIP OFF FOOCHOW

LOCAL SALES THIS MONTH IN BIG GAIN

Some of Leading Stores Report Best Business in Three to Five Years

CITY OPTIMISTIC AS YEAR '34 NEARS

Practically Every Firm in La Grande Reports Good Increase Over December of 1932.

One of the most encouraging increases in business noted in La Grande over a period of recent years, is taking place here this month, with practically all lines of retail merchandising showing decided gains over last December, and some going further back than that.

The gain, largely in Christmas shopping of course, appears both in volume of merchandise sold and in actual circulation of cash money.

With such an encouraging month behind them, La Grande business men are facing the new year with the greatest optimism in the last three or four years.

Counties Will Have Their Own Hog Associations

Hog raisers in any county in Oregon will have opportunity to form their own hog production control associations and sign up for cash benefits under the national corn-hog adjustment program, according to plans laid by members of the O. S. C. extension service, who have been in the task of conducting the educational campaign in this state.

Regional associations were first contemplated for counties with small hog production but since it is learned that the corn-hog contracts are comparatively simple it is believed that even a county with only a half dozen growers can form its own association with less overhead expense and inconvenience.

Census reports credit Union county with a total hog production of 11,759 head, and corn production of 800 acres, out of a state total of 224,539 hogs and 63,118 acres of corn.

(Continued on Page Six)

WILL ROGERS says:

BEVERLY HILLS, Cal., Dec. 28 — The big Pan-American conference in Uruguay adjourned. While it did nothing, it did it so well that they all left friends, which is more than any conference in years has accomplished.

You can't hope to gain ground at a conference, you only try to remedy the damage done at the last one.

Our Mr. Cordell Hull must have done a very creditable job for us for I see he is able to visit Argentina, Chile, Peru and other countries under his own name.

Generally our delegates arrive at a conference with a band and leave incognito. Yours, P. S.: You may have to look that incognito up. I did.

Will Rogers

COUNTY AGENTS MEET HERE WITH BALLARD TODAY

County agricultural agents from five counties, Union, Umatilla, Wallowa, Baker and Malheur, are in La Grande this afternoon meeting with F. L. Ballard, Oregon State college, county agent leader.

First instruction program that is being taken up in each county will be received. Detailed instruction about making out contracts will be given also.

County agents here include H. O. Avery, Union; W. A. Holt, Umatilla; N. C. Donaldson, Wallowa; P. T. Forrester, Baker; R. G. Larson, Malheur.

The meeting is being held in Mr. Avery's office.

RETURN PERKINS TO DIRECTORATE OF MOTOR CLUB

W. C. Perkins, prominent La Grande business man who for several years has been interested in motorists' problems, was re-elected director of the Oregon State Motor association for a two-year term by members of the association last night at the La Grande hotel at 8 o'clock.

Mr. Perkins is the representative from Baker, Union, Wallowa and Umatilla counties on the state board.

(Continued on Page Six)

CITY WILL GREET NEW YEAR QUIETLY

New Year's day, 1934, promises to be a quiet one in La Grande this year, with very little scheduled for the day of a public nature.

Many watch night parties will be held Sunday evening, an annual custom, but beyond that and the New Year's family dinner, the day promises to be uneventful.

A trapshoot has been scheduled at Lone Tree.

Many of the churches Sunday will observe the New Year's approach in sermon and otherwise. Details of

(Continued on Page Six)

FRENCH TOAST!



Smiling prettily at the oo-la-las of her countrymen is lovely Elizabeth Arpal (above). Proudest because she's just been chosen Miss Paris, 1934. She's only 20.

NO ROTATION OF C. W. A. JOBS IS NEWEST RULING

Rotation of civil works employment is strictly against government regulations, according to information received by the C. W. A. board here today from E. R. Goudy, administrator for Oregon.

Upon the completion of any given project the persons employed on that project shall be transferred by the local C. W. A. board directly to a new project and shall not be returned to the general pool for re-selection by the national re-employment service.

Mr. Goudy's ruling said. In other words, after the county quota of 383 is at work, no further jobs are possible on C. W. A. under the present rules unless some C. W. A. worker is discharged, when a new man may be selected to fill the vacancy.

Tomorrow Burton E. Palmer, assistant to the administrator, and Victor Carlson, Eastern Oregon field executive, will conduct a C. W. A. conference of two sessions for committeemen and administrative forces from Wallowa, Baker, Umatilla and Union counties.

At this time the local C. W. A. expects to present some additional projects. The main purpose of the meetings, of course, is to more thoroughly explain various phases of the C. W. A., the national re-employment service and county relief committee

(Continued on Page Four)

ORCHARDISTS OF COUNTY ARE WORRIED

Fear Heavy Damage to Fruit Trees if Cold Snap Interrupts Spring Like Weather.

Spring like weather in the Grande Ronde valley this month—particularly the last two weeks—while enjoyed tremendously by many people, is causing much apprehension among orchardists of this county.

If they could be assured that there would be no severe cold during the next two months, they would be more than delighted with the prospects of a mild winter, but it's the uncertainty that is troubling them.

Some orchardists maintain that the sap has started running in their fruit trees, although others are not so sure about this.

Certainly, buds are well formed on most trees and many people believe that spring growth actually has started.

Lilacs and other hardy shrubs are as far advanced as usually is the case early in the spring; new grass and new vegetation in general has made

(Continued on Page Four)

Cars Driven On Jan. 1 Must Have '34 License Tags

State policemen stationed in La Grande are making plans to thoroughly patrol Union and Wallowa counties beginning New Year's day, to see that no cars are driven without 1934 license plates.

Only one more day after today remains in which motorists may purchase 1934 licenses and thereby be sure of operating his or her car on New Year's day.

Automobile plates may be ordered either direct from Salem or through the sheriff's office here.

Sale of 1934 licenses has lagged, despite reiteration by Charles P. Pray, state police superintendent, that cars on the highways must have new tags Jan. 1.

At the close of business in Salem yesterday licenses issued dropped 9,387 from a corresponding date last summer when half-year licenses were sold.

Only 59,004 of the new licenses had been issued. In making the announcement, the secretary of state's office in Salem said truck application blanks had been only recently available and few trucks

(Continued on Page Six)

Daughter Comforts Torch Slayer



Found guilty of the torch murder of her divorced husband, Mrs. May Hanson, 39, here is shown in court at Rockford, Ill., comforted by her daughter, June, 12, after the verdict was returned. The jury convicted Mrs. Hanson on a charge of killing her husband by drenching his clothing with gasoline and then applying a match. She was given 14 years in prison.

BRATTON, JORDAN BOUND OVER TO THE GRAND JURY

John Jordan and Joe Bratton, charged with assault with a dangerous weapon, received preliminary hearing this morning before Judge L. Denham, justice of the peace, and were bound over to await the action of the grand jury. Bond was set at

(Continued on Page Three)

ROOSEVELT'S PEACE PLANS ARE OUTLINED

President Challenges World Political Leaders — Declares Against Intervention.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 (AP) — The White House today became a listening post for reaction to a stern challenge by President Roosevelt that world political leaders must assume all blame for the blocking of a universal peace accord.

The president today was behind a three-step plan for a world non-aggression pact, by which, he said, any nation still believing "in the use of the sword for invasion" could be singled out.

Standing before a 77th birthday anniversary commemoration of Woodrow Wilson last night, Mr. Roosevelt praised the war president's league of nations realization as "a prop" but not the answer to the world peace structure. Of the league he added,

(Continued on Page Four)

PHONE COMPANY'S BUDGET REJECTED

SALEM, Dec. 29 (AP) — Budget items of four utility companies operating in Oregon were rejected by Charles M. Thomas, public utilities commissioner, in orders issued here today.

The items consisted mostly of payments to holding companies and reduction of salaries of chief officials.

One of the orders affected the West Coast Telephone company, operating at La Grande and in Southwestern Oregon, reducing salaries of officials and payment of \$4,000 to the Loveland Engineering company of San Francisco.

(Continued on Page Six)

Wheat Today

The price of local cash wheat stood at about 50 1/2 cents bulk here today, according to quotations at the Pioneer Flouring Mills, Portland cash 69 cents.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29 (AP) — With all grain markets scheduled for a holiday Monday, and with the Liverpool market closed tomorrow, year-end adjustment of accounts weakened wheat prices today.

Declines in prices carried wheat in Chicago down more than 3 cents under yesterday's top. Warmer weather with snow was predicted for a large part of the United States winter wheat belt, and this tended to remedy crop damage fears.

Wheat closed 2 1/2 @ 2 3/4 below yesterday's finish; corn 1 1/4 @ 1 1/2 down, oats 1/2 @ 1 1/4 off, and provisions unchanged to 5c decline.

JUST BEFORE PRESSTIME

WALLACE FEARS NEW FLOOD
OREGON PAYROLLS GAIN
TELLS OF \$600,000 PROFIT
CONVICTS KILL ONE MAN

WALLACE, Idaho, Dec. 29 (AP) — A heavy downpour of rain and fast-melting snow in the mountains today sent streams out of their banks in this region, threatening new flood horrors to inhabitants who already have seen a million dollars worth of damage in a week.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29 (AP) — A survey of Oregon employment made in 116 representative firms by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco indicates the state payrolls poured 37 per cent more into trade channels in November than a year ago, and where 100 men were then employed, 129 are now at work.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29 (AP) — Testimony today brought out that Phillip H. Philbin Jr., made \$600,000 profit during the spectacular rise of the stock of Atlas Tack corporation and through its collapse Dec. 16.

ATMORE, Ala., Dec. 29 (AP) — One man was killed and another probably fatally wounded today as they sought to apprehend ten escaped convicts from Atmore state prison farm on a highway near the penitentiary.

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 29 (AP) — Outbreaks in two cities of Argentina, which the government described as a radical revolt against it, today resulted in at least 20 deaths and the wounding of 100 persons.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29 (AP) — The United States destroyer Fulton anchored off Foochow today, ready to protect American lives and property.

The precaution was taken in the event the national Chinese government's operations against the local rebel movement assume proportions which might endanger the Americans here.

The majority of the 144 Americans living in Foochow and vicinity are safely domiciled on Nantai Island in the South Min river. Thus far Nantai Island has been free from attack by the Nanking bombing planes which have damaged Foochow.

Likewise, the majority of the 87 Americans and 60 Filipinos in the

(Continued on Page Four)

GIRL CONFESSES KILLING OF HER LITTLE FRIEND

By T. D. Hagenbuch
WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., Dec. 29 (AP) — A thirteen-year-old girl has confessed, District Attorney Frank H. Coyne said today, to the murder last Sunday of her eight-year-old girl chum.

Mary Kavnia, Coyne said, told him after long questioning last night that she had killed Josephine Moropsy, hitting her on the head with a rock and then strangling her.

"I did it," the district attorney quoted her as saying. "Josie told lies about me and about my family. I did it. I lost my temper."

Josephine's body was found on Christmas eve under the porch steps of St. Matthew's Lyceum at Hastings-on-Hudson. Police believed she had been slain by a man and it was not until early yesterday that they started questioning Mary. Steadfastly she denied the crime until late last night she broke down and admitted she had killed Josephine.

(Continued on Page Two)

FATE OF OREGON JOBS UNCERTAIN

PORTLAND, Dec. 29 (AP) — A special dispatch to the Journal today from Washington, D. C., said that "lacking official word as to what the public works board did in its session Thursday, members of the Oregon delegation were left to speculate as to the weight that should be given to grapevine reports, some of which were discouraging."

"True," the dispatch continued, "Senator Steiwer's office reports that the Celilo to Wallula improvement of the Columbia, and the Deschutes

(Continued on Page Six)

PREMIER DUCA, OF RUMANIA, MURDERED

BUCHAREST, Rumania, Dec. 29 (AP) — Premier Duca of Rumania was assassinated today.

The assassination occurred in the city of Sibiu, the seat of the royal palace, as the premier was about to board a train for Bucharest after a conference with King Carol this afternoon.

He died instantly when a student fired four revolver bullets into his head at close range.

Ion G. Duca, liberal leader and former minister of the interior, was made premier by King Carol Nov. 12.

He followed Alexander Vaida-Voevod, former premier whose government was overthrown.

NAVY READY TO PROTECT U. S. CITIZENS

Several Hundred Americans in Section of China Now Menaced

LEGATION FILES REPRESENTATIONS

Protests to Chinese National Government Because of Damage Done to Foochow Mission.

PEIPING, Dec. 29 (AP) — The United States legation today made representations to the Chinese national government as a result of damage done to the American mission board property at Foochow several days ago by national government aerial bombs.

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(Continued on Page Four)

New Gold Order Is Directed At The Big Hoarder

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 (AP) — Acting Secretary Morgenthau said today his new anti-hoarding order was directed at the big hoarder and that the treasury expected to get in several millions in gold and yellow backs.

"There is several million around in the banks and other places and we are going after it," Morgenthau told newsmen. "The drive is still against the big hoarder, not the little one, but we think small hoarders will come along and turn in their gold."

"It's a mopping up at the end of the year. I think we'll get several millions. We mean business."

Asked whether the treasury was going to call in gold held by federal reserve banks, which constitutes three quarters of the nation's monetary gold stock, Morgenthau replied:

"I just can't discuss that. We're on a 24-hour basis."

Morgenthau said the new order would not alter the reconstruction corporation gold purchase policy. Today the corporation again quoted a price of \$34.08 an ounce for newly mined metal.

Crown Prince Of Japan Given Name

TOKYO, Dec. 29 (AP) — Japan's beloved little crown prince received a name today. In a ceremony which lasted two hours his father announced his full name as Akihito, Tsugu No Miya, which means "Prince of the August Succession and Enlightened Benevolence."

If the infant born amid great rejoicing seven days ago lives to succeed Emperor Hirohito, he will be known as Akihito.

(Continued on Page Six)

EXPLAIN INSURANCE OF BANK DEPOSITS

The following is one of a series of information released by A. K. Arker, cashier of the First National bank of La Grande, explaining how deposits in participating banks will be insured under law beginning Jan. 1, 1934. — Editor's Note.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

The Glass-Steagall banking act was passed by both houses on June 13, 1933 and signed by the president on June 16, 1933.

1. This bill creates the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, to hold and liquidate assets of all closed national and state member banks, and to insure the deposits of all banks entitled to insurance benefits.

2. Management of the corporation is vested in a board of three, one of whom shall be the comptroller, the others appointed by the president and confirmed by the senate. The term of the appointive members is six years, and the annual salary is \$10,000.

3. The government appropriates \$150,000,000 to capital of the insurance corporation.

The Balloon Ascension Will Be Temporarily Postponed



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