

Admiral Byrd's Monoplane Wrecked In Antarctica

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, MARCH 15, 1934

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

NUMBER 160

SAM INSULL ESCAPES FROM GREECE

NO "WINTER" IN LA GRANDE IN 1933-34

Fall Season Extends Into Early Spring—Many All-Time Weather Records Established.

With the "winter" over, fruit trees in bloom and the mercury in the 70s, a resume of the weather from Nov. 15 to Mar. 15—La Grande's normal winter period—reveals the last season not only as the warmest like period on record in this city, but also reveals there really was no winter weather. The minimum temperature was 19 above, only seven inches of snow fell, and the ground was never frozen for more than a day or two at a time.

Crops in the ground grew throughout the season, golfers played every week of the winter, and kiddies with sleds and skis had the biggest disappointment of their lives.

The winter was unparalleled in this section, and caused people to talk about shifting Japanese currents, sudden arrival of a generally warmer climate for the Pacific coast, etc. The oldest residents said winter would come sometime during the period, but their beliefs proved in error. Here's the summary:

Nov. 15 to Dec. 1
Moisture nearly normal, with rain five days totalling .85 of an inch. One inch of snow, which melted quickly. Mean temperature for month 42.8 degrees, 2.7 degrees above normal. High of 66 above on Nov. 23, lowest 19 above on 29th and 30th. In last 15 days of month mercury was below freezing only four days. Highest minimum in that period 41 above, lowest maximum 35 above.

Dec. 1 to Jan. 1
Several new records established this month. It was the warmest December, and the cloudiest December in

(Continued on Page Three)

Today Last One To Pay Tax; U.P. Co. Pays \$55,971

The tax collecting department at the county court house today was in probably its biggest day of the present rush to pay first quarter taxes. Scores of citizens visited the office to make payments before penalties are imposed.

The Union Pacific railroad system, the biggest taxpayer in Union county, paid its first and second quarter taxes this morning. Joe Keeney, agent, making the payment. The sum amounted to \$55,971.21, swelling the receipts for today to a large figure when added to the other smaller payments received.

Taxes for the first quarter must be paid before the closing hour this afternoon or they become delinquent.

(Continued on Page Eight)

Moving Day In Federal Building

Offices of H. G. Avery, county agent; C. E. Yongue, recruiting officer and C. Lloyd Welch, collector of internal revenue, are being shifted around in the federal building. The county agent's office will be the former recruiting office, Mr. Yongue will be housed in the former office of the revenue collector, while Mr. Welch will take over Mr. Avery's office.

Dolfuss Shows His Smartness



SANTA MONICA, Cal., March 14—A Russian plane had a forced landing while flying over that new independent country of Manchukuo and when they landed they were captured by Japanese. Guess the Japanese had had a forced landing there just ahead of 'em?

Little Dolfuss (Austria's demitasse premier), Premier Gumbo of Hungary and Mussolini of Italy (the sire of all the dictators) are holding a conference in Rome to see who should start the war and why.

The conference got well under way. Little Dolfuss had sold Mussolini 12 million bushels of wheat. That's the only practical thing I ever heard come out of an international conference. Yours,

Wile Rogers.

©1934, McNaught Syndicate, Inc.

SEEKS DISCOUNT ON DELINQUENT TAX BILL HERE

A proposition from the Eastern Oregon Building & Loan Co. to pay up some \$35,000 in delinquent taxes on 180 pieces of Union county property providing about a 15 per cent discount could be authorized, was presented to the city commission last night. City officials understand that similar propositions are being made to the county and school district.

The loan company planned to apply to the Home Loan Bank in Portland for a loan, it is said, providing consent for a discount could be obtained from county, city and schools. The commissioners took the stand that such a discount did not seem possible because of legal obstructions, and authorized Recorder-Treasurer

(Continued on Page Four)

600 POUNDS OF CLAMS WILL BE SERVED FRIDAY

Six hundred pounds of clams—three-tenths of a ton—will be served at the La Grande Gun club annual clam feed to be held at Lone Tree tomorrow evening at 7:30 o'clock. It was announced today by Floyd Lanning, secretary-treasurer. There also will be plenty of beer and other items that go to make up a clam feed menu, he said.

A large crowd of sportsmen, not only from La Grande but from other points in Union, Baker and Wallowa counties, are expected to attend.

Officers of the club today said that all going to the feed should turn off

(Continued on Page Six)

BRUCE RETURNED HERE—PROMOTED

La Grande friends of Tom Bruce will be interested to hear of an advancement in his position with the Oregon Mutual Life Insurance company which returns him from Baker to this city. Bruce, because of splendid work and accomplishment as field man in the Baker section, and

(Continued on Page Four)

Here's a Diamond as Big as an Egg



If you want to know what the fourth biggest diamond in the world looks like, study the rock this London saleswoman is comparing to an egg in size. Found in South Africa a month ago by Jacobus Jonker, an aged prospector, the gem brought him \$315,000. The diamond was sent to London by mail in an ordinary parcel.

RIFLE TEAM WINS FOURTH PLACE IN NORTHWEST SHOOT

Final scores in the Spokesman-Review's northwest telegraphic rifle shoot were announced today, placing La Grande in undisputed fourth place in the "C" division, in which 24 clubs from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana competed. Dalkena won first, Miles City second and U. P. of Spokane third.

The La Grande Gun club team wound up its competition in a blaze of glory, with the team score of 1,412 one of the best turned in for the season, and topping all other teams in the final shoot. Also, H. P. Greer's score of 289 was second and George Kinkade's 288 was third this week. Kurt Wiel, of Miles City, was first with a 291.

La Grande defeated Toppenish.

(Continued on Page Six)

LOCAL GUARD COMPANY HAS INSPECTION

Major Pillsbury, U. S. Army, Favorably Impressed With Progress of Co. E in Last Year.

Approximately 200 La Grande people witnessed the annual federal inspection of Company E, 166th Infantry, Oregon national guard at the armory here last night, and in addition several officers and enlisted men of the Baker and Union companies were present. Major Pillsbury, U. S. A., of Portland, accompanied by Sergeant Vaughn, U. S. A. was the inspecting officer.

Following the inspection, Major Pillsbury told officers that he was "favorably impressed with the company's progress" since last year, and hopes were running high today among guardsmen here that the La Grande unit would rate a "V. S." for the third consecutive year. If so, it would be the first time any Eastern Oregon company has made such a record.

More than 30 of the 60 enlisted men in the unit enlisted since the last federal encampment in June, 1933, and in spite of the number of new men in the company, drills and displays went through in a fair amount of smoothness. Besides individual inspection of the company, various squads demonstrated field display of equipment, knowledge of automatic rifles, bayonet training, etc. All records, supplies, etc. were inspected during the day and found to be in good order.

Colonel Ralph H. Huron, commanding the 166th Infantry, was present at the inspection. Out-of-town of-

(Continued on Page Four)

Control Board Will Check On Grain Seedings

Grain seeding is under way generally in the county, H. G. Avery, county agent, said this morning. Committees, appointed last week to inspect plantings under the wheat control program, are in the field today, following a meeting with E. R. Jackman, farm crops specialist from Oregon State college, on Tuesday at Mr. Avery's office.

The wheat control board, at the Tuesday meeting, considered ways signers can carry out their contracts. It was decided that the committee members in each district will visit every farmer and check up on the actual planting.

'Light'n Airy Atop the Globe'

Oblivious to the din of traffic at one of the busiest intersections in the world—Seventh and Figueroa sts., Los Angeles—this ruby-throated humming bird built her nest atop a light globe and there awaits hatching of her brood. The nest is suspended 20 feet above the ground, where warmth of the light bulb comforts the bird in chilly night air.



BAKER MAN DIES OF WOUND; WOMAN FACING CHARGE

BAKER, Ore., March 15 (AP)—An inquest into the death of Carl Samuels who died here yesterday from a stab wound, was to be held here today. It was indicated by District Attorney Manley Strayer.

Although officers said that shortly before he died Samuels told them the fatal wound was suffered when he fell on the blade of a pocket knife. Mrs. Marie Holden Parker, his companion on a road house party Saturday night, was held for questioning. The stabbing occurred early Sunday morning. Before Samuels' death yesterday, Mrs. Parker had been charged with assault with a dangerous weapon. She posted \$1,000 bond and was released.

Police said they had information that the two had quarreled. The fatal knife wound that caused Samuels' death was inflicted in the abdo-

(Continued on Page Six)

NO ONE HURT SERIOUSLY IN PLANE CRASH

Little America Scene of Mishap—Admiral Byrd Refuses to Become Discouraged.

LITTLE AMERICA, Via MacKay Radio, Mar. 14 (Delayed)—Admiral Richard E. Byrd's monoplane, carrying Lt. Com. Isaac Schlosbach, U. S. navy, retired, and three passengers, crashed at 12:30 p. m., today. No one was seriously injured.

The plane cracked up 500 yards south of the expedition camp here. In the plane besides Lt. Com. Schlosbach were Arthur A. Zahn,

(Continued From Page Four)

RECOGNITION IS REFUSED UNIONS

WASHINGTON, Mar. 15 (AP)—Flat refusal to recognize labor unions was voiced before the national labor board today by automobile spokesmen shortly after William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, had asserted elsewhere that the motor car industry "is on the verge of one of the greatest strikes in the history of the nation."

Green made his statement to a senate committee considering the Wagner bill to outlaw company unions and make permanent the labor board as a court for industrial labor disputes.

At the same time, representatives of railway labor and the management sought a decision on their pay-cut dispute. The employers want to cut the basic pay 15 per cent instead of the present temporary 10 per cent slash.

Wheat Today

The price of local wheat stood at about 52½ cents bulk here today, according to quotations at the Pioneer Flouring Mills. Export bid 56½ cents. Portland cash 72 cents.

CHICAGO, Mar. 15 (AP)—Tumbling of silver prices today went hand in hand with decidedly lower quotations here on wheat.

Weakness of the Winnipeg wheat market contributed to the downward trend in Chicago. Belief was reported as prevailing at Winnipeg that lowering of prices there might result in a better European demand for wheat from Canada.

Some export business in corn from the United States was done today. Wheat closed unstable, 1½¢ to 1½¢ under yesterday's finish. May 86½¢ to 87¢, corn 15½¢ to 16¢, oats 4½¢ to 4½¢, and provisions showing 2¢ to 7¢ decline.

JUST BEFORE PRESSTIME

MITCHELL GIVES HIS VIEWS

DANUBIAN PLAN FORMULATED

FARMERS UNION HEAD DIES

7 DIE IN SOUTHERN BLOW

WASHINGTON, Mar. 15 (AP)—A policy under which the government would transport airmail and private companies would carry passengers only was advocated today by Brigadier General William Mitchell, retired, former assistant chief of the army air corps.

ROME, Mar. 15 (AP)—A concrete plan for the economic independence of Austria was formulated today by Premier Mussolini of Italy, Chancellor Dolfuss of Austria, and Premier Goemboos of Hungary. The three premiers also laid plans for the improvement of the economic situation of the Danubian states.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 15 (AP)—John A. Simpson, 65, of Oklahoma City, president of the National Farmers union, died in a hospital here today after a heart attack.

BRISBANE, Australia, Mar. 15 (AP)—Seventy-five persons were either drowned or are missing today as the result of cyclones on the north coast of Queensland, centering between Cairns and Cooktown.

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, Mar. 15 (AP)—Mrs. Frank H. D. Roosevelt and her party arrived aboard the airliner Caribbean Clipper at 11:50 p. m. today on a flight from San Juan, P. R., and will remain here overnight before continuing to Miami, Fla.

LEGION TO HELP SALVATION ARMY AID TRANSIENTS

The American Legion will sponsor a drive for the benefit of the Salvation Army, it was decided last night at the March meeting held at the Socajawes Inn.

The transient problem has become acute in La Grande, it is said, and the Salvation Army hopes to establish a transient kitchen to take care of all who want food, relieving the stores of the problem. Members of the committee in charge of the drive are L. P. Kingsley, H. E. Brady, Herbert Evans, Walter Bean, Harley Richardson, F. G. Hennings and C. J. Shorb.

The drive will be conducted through donations, and the officers of the Salvation Army will run the kitchen.

The American Legion also went on record as favoring the community playground program sponsored this summer by civic, religious and fraternal organizations of the city, and will make a financial donation to the project.

An invitation was extended to the

(Continued on Page Four)

N. R. A. IRON FIST TO BE UNGLOVED

PORTLAND, March 15 (AP)—Declaring "the time has arrived to make an example of some outstanding offender, and we're about ready to take direct action," NRA officials here today prepared to move against violators of the national recovery administration codes. A public meeting was arranged for tonight.

Edgar Freed, state compliance director, stated the iron fist shortly will replace the velvet glove in dealing with complaints of unfair trade practice.

(Continued on Page Four)

LINDY TO TESTIFY BUT SPURNS BOARD

NEW YORK, Mar. 15 (AP)—Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh, in a telegram to Secretary of War George H. Dern today, reiterated his refusal to take part, "directly or indirectly," in the secretary's investigation into army aviation.

WASHINGTON, March 15 (AP)—Charles A. Lindbergh notified the senate postoffice committee by telegram today he would be "glad" to appear before the committee tomorrow to testify on the permanent airmail legislation.

Lindbergh was among a number of prominent aviators invited.

WASHINGTON, March 15 (AP)—The government declined today to take "no" for an answer from Col. Charles

(Continued on Page Eight)

MAN WANTED BY AMERICA SLIPS AWAY

Believed En Route to Paris Today Disguised As a Woman.

ESCAPES THROUGH CORDON OF POLICE

Mrs. Insull and Servants Questioned, But They Deny Knowledge of His Whereabouts.

ATHENS, March 15 (AP)—Samuel Insull Sr., wanted in Chicago on charges of embezzlement and grand larceny, fled from his apartment home early today and it was believed he was on his way to Paris. He was said to have escaped dressed as a woman.

After hours of official silence and dozens of conflicting unofficial rumors, the government, through the department of alien control, admitted officially that the 74-year-old former utilities czar had escaped.

Insull apparently made his escape through a police cordon that surrounded his home where he had been in refuge from American authorities more than a year.

Mrs. Insull questioned. Mrs. Insull was taken into custody and questioned by the police. She told them that her husband had left, but said she had no idea of where he had gone. Personal servants also were questioned.

Insull's disappearance came while high government authorities were declaring that Insull positively would leave the country tonight in compliance with the official order that he had to quit Greece before midnight.

The news he had escaped the surveillance of the authorities hummed through Athens. The people gathered everywhere to discuss the once

(Continued on Page Four)

Veterans' Benefit Bill Headed For Approval, Belief

WASHINGTON, Mar. 15 (AP)—The many-millioned veterans' benefit legislation, productive of turbulent uprisings in both senate and house, was heard today toward a compromise acceptable to President Roosevelt.

Here are the amendments adopted by the house:

A \$90,000,000 compromise by Representative Taber (R., N. Y.) to restore 29,000 World War presumptive cases to the pension rolls permanently at 75 per cent of the amount received before the economy act.

Increased allowances to disabled

(Continued on Page Four)

Morgenthau Against High Silver Prices

WASHINGTON, March 15 (AP)—The treasury's investigation of speculative silver holdings was said today by Secretary Morgenthau to have shown that some advocates of higher silver prices "were not entirely disinterested."

Morgenthau made this statement to newspapermen just after discussing the silver question with Chairman Somers of the house coinage committee and other committee members.

Morgenthau said he opposed further change in the government silver policy at this time.

(Continued on Page Eight)

FURTHER SPLITTING OF WARRANTS TABOO

During the city commission meeting last night Vernon Bull suggested that the city split up salary warrants into smaller warrants than at present, so as to allow employees to pay bills to merchants without requiring the merchants to furnish change and then carry the warrants. The city dads explained that at present many of the warrants are split up into as many as six, in order to accommodate employees, but felt that they could not go beyond that figure except in extreme emergencies. City Manager Angus McAllister said today that two employees last month received eight warrants each, but that each case was of an emergency nature. Insurance of additional warrants means both extra expense and additional bookkeeping to the city, it was pointed out, and under the present system, the average number

of salary warrants issued monthly amounts to around 200. Many of the employees and officials take their salaries in one warrant when they know where they can dispose of it for cash, or the average amount would be even greater, it was said. The county follows a similar plan, with few cases on record of where more than five warrants have been issued to any one employee. The county attempts to be reasonable and co-operate with employees, but after a certain point has been reached, the additional expense and bookkeeping work involved makes further splitting up of warrants almost prohibitive. County Clerk C. K. McCormick said today. There have been a few emergency cases, he said, where more than five were issued to one person, and he also added that quite a num-

(Continued on Page Six)

