

Weather

Data for 24 hours to 7 a. m. Temperature: Maximum 96 Minimum 57 Forecast: Clear to partly cloudy tonight and Friday, not much temperature change.

La Grande Evening Observer HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON Union and Wallowa Counties

A Community Newspaper For Every Member of the Family

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LA GRANDE, OREGON THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 12, 1945

FIVE CENTS



TEAMED FOR TOKYO'S DESTRUCTION—Teamed up again in delivering devastating 1,200-plane attack on Tokyo area are Adm. Wm. F. Halsey, right, and Vice-Adm. John S. McCain (left), carrier task force commander, shown talking over strategy in stateroom of Halsey's flagship during an earlier attack. Mightiest naval armada afloat backed the air attack, standing some 200 miles off Tokyo, with flying time from carriers to Tokyo target and back about 16 minutes.

B-29s Hit 5 New Targets Oregon Forest Fires Small, To Date 39 Cities Spattered By Bombs

By ERIC W. ALLEN, Jr. SALEM, July 12 (UP)—Oregon has been lucky so far as forest fires are concerned this year—so far, at least. Twenty-one fires reported within the last two days, most of them the result of an electric storm in southern Oregon, have brought the total to 80 for 1945, State Forester Nels Rogers reports. Only two are in danger of going out of control.

Overcast Now Only 59 fires had been reported up to this week, Rogers said, about the same number as last year. An overcast of smoke in the Willamette valley bore witness to two fires in the northwestern part of the state—one in Clatsop county and one not far from Forest Grove. The latter is potentially serious, and a large crew was fighting it.

In spite of the new fires, the situation is not as serious as it could be, Rogers said, because the humidity has not yet reached its low point. He estimates there will be a period of 50 to 60 days of maximum danger during the summer, when humidity drops below 30 points.

Ston Logging At present it is in the high 30s and low 40s, he said. When it gets below 30 in western Oregon all logging operations must cease. The outbreak of fires puts stress on the need for care in the woods, Rogers emphasized. This week is only the preliminary danger period, and because we've been lucky so far is no reason to be careless, he said.

Reminders As a result of the situation becoming rapidly more dangerous, Rogers and the Keep Oregon Green association remind travelers, picnickers and campers of the following facts and rules: 1. Danger of natural fires in the woods, Oregon's greatest resource, is great, and will become greater.

Possession of Slot Machine Illegal SALEM, July 12 (UP)—Possession of a coin-in-the-slot gambling machine, except when it is owned for storage only and is not in working condition, is against the law, Attorney General George Neuner ruled today. In an opinion for Stanley J. Mitchell, Clatsop county district attorney, Neuner said possession when the machine is in a position to be operated is illegal.



NEW PASTORS HERE—Rev. T. M. Mitchell, new pastor of the Church of God here, and Mrs. Mitchell, assistant pastor, will present services here Sunday for the second time in La Grande. They previously served the church at Newberg and for the last year both attended Anderson college and seminary at Anderson, Ind. The Mitchells have two children, Constance, 9, and Thomas, 5. In Newberg they were well acquainted with Rev. Ernest Chamberlain, cousin of Rev. Eugene Chamberlain, pastor of First Christian church here.

County Pioneers Plan Picnic Includes Music, Historical Papers

Mrs. Kate R. Hanley and Mrs. Frank Jasper have announced the program for the Union County Pioneers annual picnic which will be an event of July 19 at Riverside park. The event will open with community singing. Invocation will be given by Frank Jasper, and the address of welcome will be given by George T. Cochran. Walter M. Pierce will respond. Mrs. Vivian Hindman McIntire will present a solo and Mrs. Edith Curry will conduct the memorial. Community singing will conclude the program, which each year is conducted in the pavilion. A basket lunch will be served at noon, with coffee and cream furnished by the association.

The rest of the afternoon will be spent visiting, and a meeting of the Union County Historical society will be held there later in the day.

Duce's Wife Says 'Near Him Only If He Was Down'

(Editor's note: The following exclusive interview is one of the few public statements ever made by Mrs. Benito Mussolini. It is her first to an American correspondent since the death of her husband and her removal to a British internment camp.)

Mrs. Burleigh of Enterprise Dies; Ill But Few Days

Mrs. Leta A. Burleigh of Enterprise, wife of the late James A. Burleigh, and mother of Elyvester H. Burleigh of La Grande, died at the Enterprise hospital at 5 p.m. Wednesday. She suffered a stroke Saturday at her home.

Other survivors include three more children, Weldell M. and Genevieve McCubbin of Enterprise and Florence McCubbin of Wallowa and ten grandchildren, as well as her stepfather, Jim Elakeley a cattle man, and a half-sister, Veva Hilton of Everett, Wash.

WOOD SUCCEEDS HART WASHINGTON, July 12 (UP)—The house today elected Rep. John S. Wood, D., Ga., to the chairmanship of the committee on un-American activities. He succeeds Rep. Edwards J. Hart, D., N. J., who resigned.

Fraternalizing Rule Will Be Relaxed BRITISH OCCUPATION HQ., Germany, July 12 (UP)—Rule against troop fraternization with the Germans probably will be eased in the American as well as the British zone in about two weeks, it was reported today.

Oil Prospecting In Willamette Starts SALEM, July 12 (UP)—Scientific prospecting for oil and natural gas is being conducted in the mid-Willamette valley by two major oil companies, with 30 men doing routine reconnaissance work.

Hop Pickers Top Wages Are Fixed SALEM, July 12 (UP)—A maximum wage of three and a half cents a pound will be paid hop pickers in Oregon this year, it was decided at a meeting of hop growers here late yesterday.

STANGE APPOINTED August J. Stange was appointed to the office of district deputy grand master of the grand lodge of Oregon, A. F. and A. M. The appointment was made by Fred W. Hartman, grand master.

25,000 Head of Stock to Move Out of Areas Truckers, Rail Men Discuss Shipping

Stock growers and transportation men from Union and Wallowa county estimated last night there will be at least 25,000 head of cattle, hogs and sheep to be moved out of the two counties as soon as the season starts, in about another month. About 7,500 cattle will move from Wallowa county and 6,000 from Union, it was estimated; there will be 3,500 hogs to move here and 4,000 from Wallowa; and several thousand head of sheep from the two counties.

The men met last night at the Sacajawea hotel to discuss means of transportation. Railroad officials have estimated they will need three days notice to get cars for carload movements. Truckers at the meeting last night indicated if rail shippers could handle the carload lots, the truckers could handle the smaller than car shipments.

Theo Gregory of La Grande and P. M. Wolf of Union were the two truckers present. The meeting included county agents, railroad men and ODT Director Wiesse of Portland. The movement to market starts when the cattle and other stock are brought down out of the hills, off the grass and put in lots. Bangs disease tests of cattle will start then too and it was suggested infected animals be moved in mid-week shipments, leaving weekends free for the other shipping.

Back Taxes in Cities Fund in County Divided

Division of current and back taxes from 1926-1945 in the special cities fund has been announced by Al Harlow, county treasurer. The fund, totaling \$8,988.52, has been divided on a percentage basis among the following eight Union county cities: La Grande, \$7,131; Union, \$1,424.99; Elgin, \$105.98; North Powder, \$141.12; Imbler, \$28.80; Island City, \$27.36; Summerville, \$8.69; Cove, \$130.50.

Division of the special school fund's back and current taxes from 1926-1945 was also announced. The \$11,896.95 total, also divided on a percentage basis, will go to the 49 school districts in Union county. No figures have been announced.

Classes in Print Studies Held at FBI School Here

Special Agent Howard B. Patterson yesterday conducted classes in fingerprint and palm-prints impressions at La Grande's half-completed five-day FBI police school.

Agent Patterson also conducted practical patent fingerprint work, which included dusting and lifting of latents, followed by practice work in the subjects. Session today was opened by Special Agent K. D. Deaderick, lecturing on testifying, and leading a discussion of raids.

Policemen Guard Newspaper Plants NEW YORK, July 12 (UP)—Police Commissioner Lewis J. Valentine ordered more uniformed policemen and detectives assigned to guard newspaper plants today as a result of violence last night in the 12-day-old strike of newspaper delivery men.

Police said they had been informed morning newspapers will attempt to make deliveries to railroad terminals and outlying points tonight, and protection will be provided. Valentine ordered the reinforcements after a conference with John J. Ryan, chief of detectives.

Enrollment at Eastern Oregon College Will Show Increase Over That of 1944

Indications are the enrollment for the fall term at Eastern Oregon college will show a considerable increase over last fall. This increase will be partly due to the addition of three new terminal curricula of two years duration which are being added to the general college program. These curricula are designed for training medical and dental assistants; merchandising, and radio-electric service and management.

Cannery Equipment To Be Stored Here

It was learned today that through the efforts of Raymond Gray president of La Grande Chamber of Commerce, and local school authorities the state vocational education department is willing to permit the storage of the cannery equipment in La Grande for this year providing there is assured local interest will insure the provision of a building suitable for installation next spring. From all evidence at hand it is now too late to install a cannery for this season and thus the only possibility of saving the equipment for local use will be through the promise of providing quarters for the cannery next spring.

Truman Studies Progress of War With Japanese

ABOARD U. S. S. AUGUSTA WITH PRESIDENT TRUMAN, July 12 (UP)—Interrupting his detailed study of the program for the Big Three meeting, President Truman paid close attention to the progress of the U. S. third fleet which has been hammering Japanese homeland with carrier planes.

Truman was preparing to put a simple American case before Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin when they meet in Potsdam, Germany, next week. The Big Three conference itself is expected to begin Monday or Tuesday and probably to last longer than either of the two previous Big Three parleys. The Tehran conference lasted less than a week, the Yalta meeting eight days.

In intervals between highly secret bulletins direct from the American task force off Japan, the president conferred with Secretary of State James F. Byrnes and fleet Adm. William D. Leahy on the Big Three agenda suggested by the three participating governments.

Strikers Return To Essential Jobs

By United Press Back-to-work movements among striking employes in war and essential civilian industries throughout the nation today cut to less than 40,000 the number of workers away from their jobs.

With decisions to end work stoppages in Detroit and along the eastern seaboard, the largest single strike centered in Akron, O., where a walkout of 19,600 Firestone Tire and Rubber company employes entered its 12th day. The strikers, members of the United Rubber Workers (CIO), were scheduled to meet Saturday to consider a war labor board order to return to work.

One thousand CIO United Dairy Workers voted yesterday to end a strike at two Detroit creameries which had been unable to deliver milk to 150,000 families. The dispute arose over the union membership of part time managers.

Combat Casualties Now 1,047,680, Increase 10,743

WASHINGTON, July 12 (UP)—Total U. S. combat casualties reached 1,047,680 today, an increase of 10,743 over a week ago. The total included 243,943 killed. Army casualties compiled here now stand at 915,718 as compared with 131,962 for the navy, marine corps, and coast guard.

Of 567,674 army wounded, 346,171 have returned to duty. Of 117,213 army prisoners of war, 94,020 have been liberated. Acting Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson disclosed at his news conference 3,031 Japanese had been killed and 275 captured in the Borneo campaign up to July 7.

Allied casualties in the same campaign were 214 killed and wounded and 22 missing. In addition, Australian forces mopping up New Guinea, Bougainville and New Britain have counted 1,175 more Japanese dead and taken 27 more prisoners, bringing the total since Jan. 1 to 10,900 enemy dead and 253 captured in these by-passed areas.

Table with columns for Army, Navy, Total, Killed, Wound, Missing, Prison, Totals. Values: Army 193,506, Navy 49,535, Total 243,043; Killed 567,674, Wound 66,763, Missing 634,437; Prison 37,323, 11,502, 48,825; Totals 915,718, 131,962, 1,047,680.

WASHINGTON, July 12 (UP)—Sen. A. B. (Happy) Chandler, baseball's new commissioner, announced today that the major league baseball club owners had unanimously approved a formal contract which will give him the same unrestricted power enjoyed by his predecessor, the late Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis.

BULLETINS

DAYTON, Ohio, July 12 (UP)—Mike Turnesa, White Plains, N. Y., tenaciously hung on to his one-hole lead over Byron Nelson. Toledo, O., today with nine holes left in their 36-hole second round match of the 27th national PGA golf championship.