

Weather

Data for 24 hours to 7 a. m.
Temperature:
Maximum 95
Minimum 55
Forecast: Clear tonight and Saturday.

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 FRIDAY EVENING, JULY 20, 1945

FIVE CENTS

Society Takes Steps to Preserve Historical Data of Union County

When the last story had been told and the final reminiscence had been recalled, members of the Union County Historical society and of the sons and daughters of Pioneers adjourned to their homes last night, tired from a long day but once more thrilled in the recollection of the old days. Several steps were taken at the meeting of the society last night at Riverside park which will help to preserve records of the past for posterity.

Most of the pioneers sons and daughters who had been attending the pioneers meeting during the day had returned home before the society meeting started. More than 100 had been present for the memorial for Mrs. Hattie Proebstel Eckley, and for the afternoon program at which George Cochran presided.
Discuss Book
Also under discussion last night was the publication, expected soon, of the biography of Dunham Wright, pioneer of this area, who lived to more than 100 years old and who saw the development of Oregon from very early days.

Town Flees from Fire

Five Jap Areas in Flames

GUAM, July 20 (UP)—Admiral William F. Halsey's marauding fleet was reported prowling the Japanese coast for a new air-sea strike today while huge fires still raged through five Honshu war centers gutted during the night by a record force of Superfortresses. Shaken by 11 days and nights of intermittent naval attacks during which Halsey's Anglo-American raiders sent 7,500 tons of bombs and shells crashing into a 600-mile strip of Japan's Pacific coast, Tokyo warned the assault might be resumed at any moment.



LOGGERS BATTLE BLAZE IN OREGON FOREST FIRE—Loggers work in a pall of smoke, trying to save bridge across Wilson river, Tillamook, Ore., in week-long forest fire, worst in state since 1929. More than 1,500 servicemen and civilians fought blaze covering at least 27,000 acres in rugged mountain country.

New Peril Develops In Forest

PORTLAND, July 20 (UP)—A new peril developed for the western Washington community of Glenwood, where some families already have been evacuated and others are prepared to leave, as forest fire raced down the mountain side. A new fire sprung up to the north of Glenwood, to add to the threat from the Wilson river fire, to the west of the sawmill and logging camp center. To the south of Glenwood, the Gales creek sector was reported holding fairly well after an advance late yesterday.

Increased Street Lighting Proposed For La Grande

Survey Made at Suggestion of Ed Ford

Plan for three times as much illumination for La Grande for only 25 percent more power has been submitted to the city commission by J. T. Hood, who recently made a survey of the city's lighting system at the request of Ed Ford, city manager. Hood, sales engineer with the General Electric company in Portland, made recommendations for improvement of the lighting system by replacing the 74 lights of 6,000 lumens each now on Adams avenue, with 54 new luminaires of 10,000 lumens each. In this way, Hood stated, La Grande would receive approximately three times the illumination now received, glare would be reduced and visibility improved even beyond this by higher mountings of 25 feet, instead of the 16 feet mountings now being used.



DOOR 'TALKS' IN COURT—Mrs. Erminia Roohan is shown in Los Angeles court with knife and scarred bedroom door she brought along as evidence in seeking divorce from husband Joseph E. Roohan. She charged her husband consistently threatened her life and repeatedly threw a butcher knife at her but explained that she was never hit because she would dodge behind the door.

No More Details

The Japanese said Halsey's 150 battlewagons, carriers, cruisers and supporting warships were still maneuvering off western Honshu. Admiral Chester W. Nimitz gave no additional details on the bombardment of Nojima Cape, western arm of Tokyo Bay, or the preliminary air strike on the Yokosuka naval base Wednesday. That indicated Halsey had imposed radio silence on his armada, possibly covering a new blow at the enemy coast. More than 600 Marianas-based Superfortresses, the biggest B-29 fleet ever sent aloft, sowed a 310-mile trail of fire and ruin across central Honshu before dawn this morning to carry the pre-invasion bombardment into its 45th consecutive day. Use Mustangs One hundred fighters carried the aerial assault into the daylight hours, Tokyo reported. Enemy broadcasts said they attacked the Aichi area of central Honshu for an hour. Part of the force, the Japanese said, was over the Okazaki and Toyahashio areas southeast of Nagoya, and other squadrons attacked the northern edge of Nagoya itself. Tokyo broadcasts said Itaga, west of Nagoya, and Takahagi, 13 miles southeast of Hitachi, also were hit, and they acknowledged that big fires burned in the last raiders disappeared, all the target cities hours after Two Lost Two Superfortresses, less than one-half of 1 percent of the striking force, were lost in the attack. One was shot down in flames and the other was abandoned later, with five of its crew rescued. Bomber pilots returning from the five-way strike said their incendiaries stoked tremendous fires in the flimsy cities.

Latter Day Saints Church Will Have Ward Conference

La Grande first ward conference of Latter Day Saints church will be an event of Sunday, July 22, in the ward chapel, Walter A. Lindsay, bishop, announced today. The conference will be divided into three parts, the first or young people's session will commence at 10 a. m. A special meeting will be held at 4 p. m. for all members over 19 years of age. The closing session will begin at 7 p. m. at which time the general, stake and ward officers will be presented and sermons will be given by the stake presidency. The young people's session will feature a program which will include a song by the primary children; a five-minute address by Lawrence Veal on "My responsibilities as a deacon"; "What Mutual has meant to me this year," by Carol Shinsel, a Beehive girl; "Some of my experiences as a ward teacher," by Vernie Westenskow; an address by Conrad Huntsman, a member of the stake Sunday school board; "My appreciation of the church program for its youth," by Barbara Bean, a Gleaner girl; "My appreciation for the church and how I encourage my family to read the scriptures," by Kate Metcalf, a mother; and an address by Wiley Nebeker, a member of the mutual stake board.



Jack R. Oliver In Business in City Since 1888

Now Established In New Location After 32 Years After 32 years in one location, Jack R. Oliver, insurance and realty man and one of the oldest pioneers in Union county, has sold his building situated next door to the Evening Observer, and is established in the L. C. Smith building. The Oliver building has been purchased by W. E. Wilkins who is remodeling it for another business. Oliver's moving brought to light the interesting fact he has been in the insurance business since 1888, and he states he has paid to the companies more than a million dollars in premiums of his clients. 43 Years Records of the company reveal the local agent, now 83 years old, had served 43 years and is the oldest man, in years of service, with the company in Oregon and is believed to hold that record in the entire Pacific department, (Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah and Arizona). Oliver was born in 1862 in Iowa to H. W. and Caroline Oliver, and with them crossed the plains in an ox-drawn covered wagon in 1864. The trip to Oregon took six months, and upon their arrival in the Grande Ronde valley they settled in the Sumnerville district, when there were still very few white people here. Jack Oliver worked in the U. S. land office in La Grande during President Cleveland's administration, was deputy county clerk six years, and county clerk four years. In 1892 he married Winnie Blakeslee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Blakeslee, pioneer settlers who came to the county in 1862. Mrs. Oliver who will be 77 years old Monday, was born in Union. In 1900 Oliver, a familiar figure throughout the county, started in the insurance business, operating first in Union and moving to La Grande at the time the county seat was moved here. Same Company In 1913 he set up his business in the building on Sixth street, and his departure from that site uproots an institution that could well be called a landmark. He will continue with the company for whom he has been an agent more than 40 years. The Olivers have one daughter, Mrs. Mildred Crowley, who resides next door to them on First street.

House Completes Bretton Woods Bank Action

WASHINGTON, July 20 (UP)—The house today completed legislative action on a bill authorizing United States participation in the international bank and stabilization fund contemplated under the Bretton Woods fiscal agreements. Only Truman's signature on the bill remains to make this country the first nation ready to join the proposed \$8,800,000,000 monetary stabilization fund and the \$9,100,000,000 international bank of reconstruction. The U. S. would put a maximum of nearly \$6,000,000,000 into the two funds. The senate passed the bill late yesterday by a vote of 61 to 16. As soon as the bill was received by the house today, Chairman Brent Spence, D., Ky., of the banking committee, asked the house to accept three minor senate amendments. The house agreed without a dissenting vote.

Aussies Push On Rich Oil Belt

MANILA, July 20 (UP)—Australian troops pressed toward the rich oil belt around Samarinda and the mouth of the Mahakam river, in eastern Borneo, today after capturing Sambodja, 28 miles northeast of Balikpapan. Both Australian and Dutch East Indies troops smashed two stubborn Japanese counterattacks in the area north of Balikpapan, and Japan's grip on Borneo's rich oil supply appeared vastly weakened. Before the war Sambodja and the Mahakam river delta, to the north, produced 7,600,000 barrels of oil each year from 400 wells. Sambodja has a small refinery as well as a pipeline leading to the Mahakam delta. The Dutch began destroying wells in the two areas three days prior to the Japanese invasion in 1942, but it is believed that all but a few have been put back into operation.

63 Boys Attend Crop-Livestock Tour at Station

Sixty-three boys from Union, Wallowa, Baker, Malheur, Umatilla and Grant counties this afternoon learned first hand many of the things a rancher has to do in his daily work. They went to the Hall ranch where they watched dehorning, branding, vaccination and other cattle handling details. The Hall ranch is the summer range of the experiment station at Union and is far as Catherine creek. The boys, attending the annual crops and livestock tour at the station, spent the morning learning how to make rope halters and how to tie various kinds of livestock. This evening they will have softball and other games and after dark will see a motion picture.

Joergensen Held For Grand Jury After Hearing

Carl R. Joergensen was bound over today to await action of the grand jury, following preliminary hearing in justice court on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses. The charge, preferred by Mrs. Edward H. Schultz, 1511 Y avenue, accused Joergensen of contracting to repair a roof on behalf of a Spokane concern, collecting down payment in the amount of \$183 and failing to account for it. Mrs. Wayne Standley, 1407 Cherry street, also brought charges. District Attorney Colon R. Eberhard called these women and several others who stated Joergensen had obtained money from them. Joergensen is held on \$1,500 bond. The grand jury will meet sometime within the next few weeks.

Rufus I. Barker, Fruit Farmer at Cove, Is Dead

COVE, July 20 (Special)—Funeral services for Rufus I. Barker, 79, who died of a cerebral hemorrhage Wednesday night at Salem, will be held Saturday afternoon at Eugene with burial there also, according to word received here today. A fruit farmer, Barker had been a resident of Cove for 35 years, having come here from Minnesota. He was a member of the Grange, of the Episcopal church and other organizations and was active in civic affairs. He sold his ranch here a year ago and moved to Eugene. Besides his wife, he leaves four sons, Ray, in Italy, Guy, Herbert and Gordon; and five daughters, Jessie Daniels, Berta Hoare, Nellie Stringham, Dorothy Young and Lura Wells.

Rents Established On Housing Units

Rents have been established at \$37 on furnished three-bedroom houses in La Grande's 40-unit housing project now under construction at Fourteenth street and H avenue. Rents have not yet been established on the 10 one-bedroom houses or the 20 two-bedroom houses, it was announced today. Applications are still being accepted at the Chamber of Commerce office for the units, available to workers in essential industries. The houses will be completely furnished, with iceboxes and wood ranges, but may be rented unfurnished, if preferred.

Red Cross Swim Classes Start Next Monday

Red Cross swimming classes, which were to have started in August, will start next Monday at the Pine Cone pool, according to Harvey Carter, chairman of water safety committee for the Union county chapter of the Red Cross. Telegram was received here last night notifying the chapter Miss Anita Jasper will be here to be instructor. Classes will start daily at 1 p. m. with beginners and swimmers taking instructions until 3 p. m. From 3 to 4:30 p. m. will be classes in junior life saving, and from 4:30 to 7 p. m. there will be junior and senior life saving classes. This is the tentative schedule and may vary. If enough interest is shown at Cove in the classes they will be scheduled there later, Carter said. Carter and Morris Richardson, who is home on furlough, will assist with the classes. Registration will be held at the pool and instruction will be free, the only charge being the pool fee.

WAIVE HEARINGS PORTLAND, July 20 (UP)—Two Seattle war workers, Lenora M. Hodgson, 26, and Fae Lois Burns, 19, held in Portland on a charge of aiding Italian prisoners of war to escape, waived removal hearings today before Federal Judge James Alger-Fea.