

La Grande Evening Observer

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WEATHER

Partly cloudy today and tonight with scattered showers and snow flurries in nearby mountains; mostly sunny tomorrow; highs 50-58; low 26-34.



RUTH ELMER
Valedictorian



DIXIE BOWMAN
Salutatorian

RUTH ELMER AND DIXIE BOWMAN EARN TOP HONORS

COVE—Ruth Elmer, who has a perfect 4.0 academic high school record has been selected valedictorian, and Dixie Lee Bowman has been selected salutatorian for graduation ceremonies stated the last week of May.

Baccalaureate service will be held Sunday, May 24, 8 p.m. in the Cove Adventist church with the Rev. L. E. Orbert of the First Christian church of La Grande as speaker.

Commencement exercise will be held at 8 p.m. Wednesday May 27 in the school gymnasium. Dr. Frank Bennett, Eastern Oregon College president, will be the main speaker.

Miss Elmer is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Elmer of lower Cove. In addition to a perfect scholastic record she is editor of the school paper, a Union County Fair Maid and Eastern Oregon district winner of the "I Speak for Democracy" contest. Miss Elmer plans to attend business college in Eugene. Miss Bowman, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William F. Bowman of Cove, she is editor of the school year book, a member of the Leopard Tracks, and plans on attending Eastern Oregon College.

Other members of the class include Dale Brunson, Pat Cox, Pat Cullison, Frank Fruits, Eugene Hoffman, Connie Maynard, Tom Maynard, Dale Miller, Dallas Miller, Lewis Rees and Steven Smith.

Herter Rejects Red Proposal For Peace Treaty In Germany

GENEVA (UPI)—Secretary of State Christian Herter today rejected the Soviet proposal for an immediate peace treaty between East and West Germany, saying it "holds the seeds of future discord and conflict."

Herter made his statement after the Communists spelled out their formal rejection of the West's peace package plan as "incomprehensible" and "unreal." They hinted, however, they might be ready to accept a stop-gap arrangement to preserve peace in Berlin while the talks here go on.

The West is preparing such a plan to safeguard western rights in Berlin under United Nations guarantee if the Big Four Foreign Ministers Conference fails to produce an over-all settlement for Germany.

Herter spoke after Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and puppet East German Foreign Minister Lothar Bolz faithfully followed the line laid down last Saturday by Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev: That the plan put forward by the West is not acceptable as a package.

Herter said the U.S. position is that, under international law, "the international entity known as Germany remains in existence, withstanding what has happened since 1945 as an incident of four-power occupation."

The session today was the longest of the conference which now is in its second week.

A West German spokesman denied reports of a policy rift among the western delegations.

"It is quite clear from the statement issued in the name of all four western delegations—including West Germany—that there is no split," the spokesman said.

He also characterized as ridiculous the talk of an alleged French and West German alignment against Britain and the U.S. since western policy was formed, unified and agreed on weeks ago. There has been no change since, he said.

Berding's statement said "reports that the western delegations have decided to break up the western peace plan and concentrate on a settlement of Berlin are incorrect."

But the statement still left open the possibility that if the package plan has to be sent on to the summit for negotiation, East and West might reach a "mark-time" accord which would guarantee peace in Berlin until final decisions are reached.

The western powers had not decided when would be the proper time to discuss such an interim arrangement.

France had been respected especially dismayed at the premature disclosure of the interim possibility. Britain was believed more or less ready to follow the American viewpoint.

Soviet Conference

Berding's statement was issued to combat the shock and dismay brought by the statement of an American official Sunday night that the U.S. would consider an "interim arrangement" on West Berlin if Russia firmly refuses to accept the peace plan as a package.

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko moved fast to take advantage of the allied difficulties. He asked for and got a one-hour secret conference with British Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd at the time Geneva was swept with reports of a western crackup.

Gromyko met for an hour with Lloyd at the British foreign minister's residence. Neither would disclose the substance of their talk.

L. E. Orbert is currently serving as interim minister at the church.

250 Injured When Bleacher Falls At Rodeo

MAYETTA, Kan. (UPI)—The top section of a newly-built bleacher caved in Sunday at the close of the Mayetta Rodeo, injuring more than 250 persons, 23 of them critically.

The critically hurt, some of whom suffered broken backs, limbs and head injuries, were hospitalized at nearby Topeka and Holton. Another 130 persons received emergency treatment at Mayetta. About 100 suffered cuts and bruises but did not go to hospitals.

The accident occurred as a crowd of about 4,000 persons was getting set to leave the annual Mayetta Rodeo and Indian Fair in this northeast Kansas community of 247 persons.

A steel girder cracked and the top section of the C-shaped bleacher collapsed, sending some occupants tumbling 15 feet to the ground. A tin-roofed concession stand beneath the bleachers helped break the fall of others.

Concessionaire Frank Hess, of Topeka, said he was cooking hot dogs over gas stoves when he heard a sharp crack that sounded as though "someone had thrown a pop bottle on the roof."

"Then I heard wood breaking and steel cracking and saw a body fall," Hess said. "Then I ran."

His helper, Tom McBride, 13, said he was getting change for a customer, turned around "and there it came."

"People were falling through the air and hanging by the railings," the youth said. "If we hadn't had this stand here, it would have been worse than it is. The stand broke the fall of some."

First Christian Names Pastor

The Rev. Wallace N. Hastings of Sheridan, Indiana, has accepted the call to the pastorate of the First Christian Church in La Grande. Rev. Hastings has been in the ministry for 15 years, serving the first Christian Church in Sheridan for the past 5 years, while he attended Butler University in Indianapolis to secure his bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts Degrees.

A native Oregonian, Rev. Hastings was born at Dufur, Oregon, and graduated from Northwest Christian College in Eugene, in 1944.

Rev. Hastings, his wife Cleo and two children, Kathleen and Jimmy will arrive in La Grande the first of September.

Rev. Hastings fills the position as pastor, following the resignation of Gene Robinson, who accepted the pastorate of the First Christian Church in Billings, Montana, last March.

L. E. Orbert is currently serving as interim minister at the church.

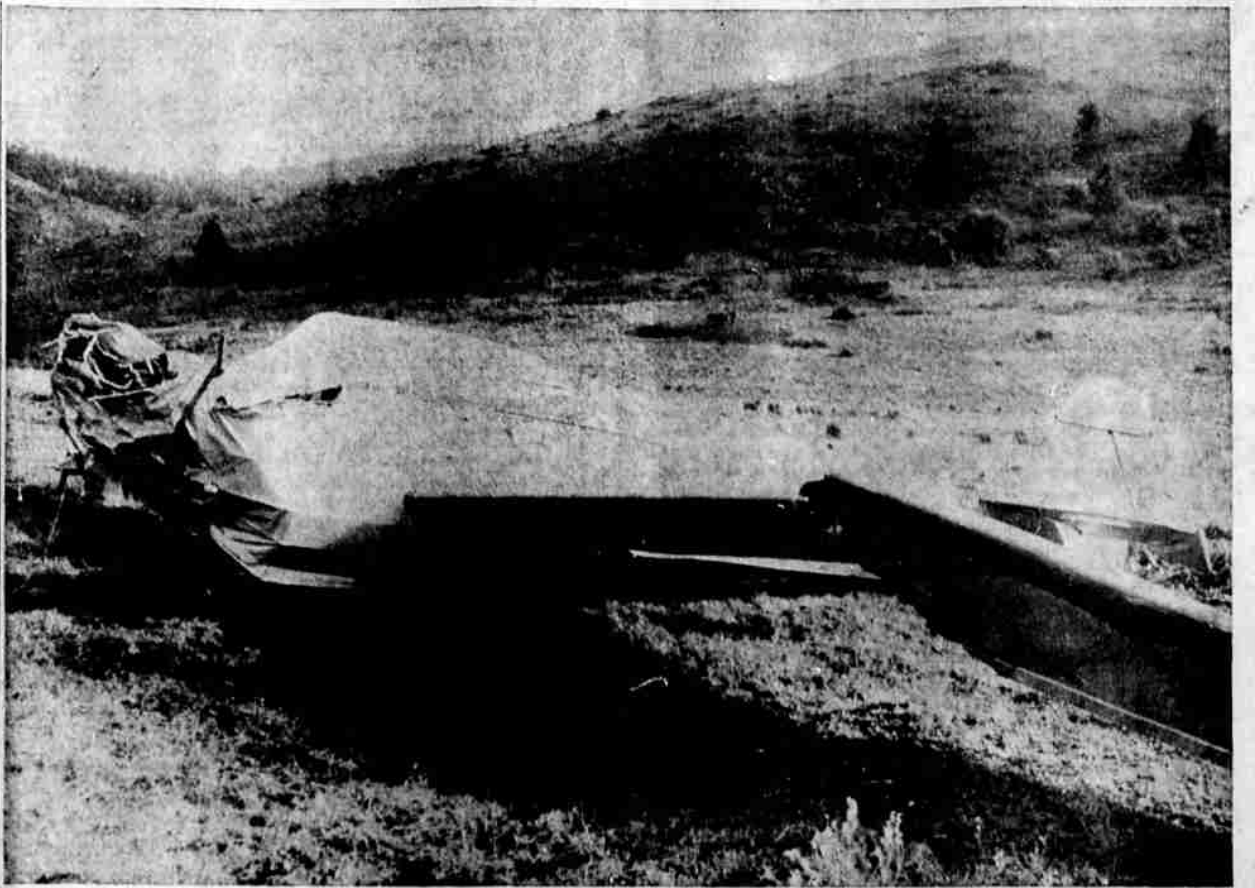
Missing Woman's Body Found At Depot Bay

DEPOE BAY (UPI)—The body of a Portland woman who disappeared from the coast May 9, was recovered near here Sunday.

Margaret L. Gray, 37, and 10-year-old Julian Piers Sloan went for a walk on the beach near Finisterre Lodge and never returned. The boy's body has not yet been recovered. The two, on a vacation with the boy's mother, were presumed to have been washed out to sea by a large wave.

Minor Car Accident Reported By Police

A minor two-car accident Sunday was reported by city police. The collision occurred at 10 a. m. on Depot street between Adams and Jefferson avenues, as Eddie R. Hicks of La Grande was backing out from a parking meter. Driver of the other car was identified as Cleo Chadwick, also of La Grande.



GLIDER PLUNGES TO EARTH

Glider above, with smashed nose and broken wings, lies near glider path at base of Ladd Canyon five miles east of here where it plunged into the earth from height of 200 feet Saturday afternoon. Walter Parker, 40, pilot of La Grande sustained many fractures from crash. (Observer Photo)

GLIDER PILOT INJURED IN CRASH NEAR HERE

Walt Parker, 40, La Grande businessman and glider pilot, was in "serious" but not critical condition this morning recovering from injuries suffered about 4:30 p.m. Saturday when his glider plane crashed at the base of Ladd Canyon five miles east of here.

Parker suffered fractures of both ankles, a crushed right heel, fracture of one leg in two places, a fractured pelvis and "numerous" rib fractures, according to his physician at St. Joseph's hospital.

Loren Blanchard, 48, La Grande, driver of the tow automobile for Parker, said the glider

pilot, trying a new type of release cable, reached an altitude of 200 feet after a short tow when, seeing his air speed and altitude were not sufficient, turned to land on the glider tow path, stalled out and then plunged nose down 200 feet into the ground.

Blanchard extracted Parker from the smashed craft and then summoned the Don Dempsey ambulance which took the injured pilot to the hospital.

The craft's nose was crushed, pinning Parker in the cockpit, and both wings were broken. Parker, a licensed glider pilot, was alone in the engineless plane.

Blanchard said the glider ordinarily reaches an altitude of 700 to 800 feet before the cable automatically releases itself from the plane but on the tow Saturday the craft had reached an altitude of only 200 or slightly more feet before Parker turned, apparently in an attempt to land the craft on the tow path, located on a hill above the state highway building about five miles east of La Grande. The plane crashed about a quarter of a mile from Highway 30. Blanchard said the cable had not released before the plane crashed.

Parker is an experienced glider pilot. Pilot's use the air currents near the mountains to sustain long flights in the air.

He lives at 2705 N. Fir street here with his wife and two children. Parker is owner of the W. L. Parker Sheet Metal Works.

Enraged Father Injures Child

ROCHESTER, N. Y. (UPI)—An enraged father who went to the aid of his 3-year-old son faced assault charges today for seriously injuring a neighbor boy.

Police said Charles Goebel, 28, picked up the neighbor boy, Michael Sorce, 6, and three him to the ground. Hospital officials said the victim might not live.

When young Sorce struck the ground a stick he was holding pierced his left eye. Later, hospital physicians said the instrument had entered the youngster's brain.

Officers investigating the case said Goebel looked out of a window of his home and saw the Sorce boy scuffling on the ground with George Goebel. The father came out of the house, picked up Michael and threw him, apparently in a fit of anger, police said.

Goebel is a physics professor at the University of Rochester, police said.

Many Are Hurt In Train Crash

CHICAGO (UPI)—An elevated train smashed into the rear of another between two northwest side stations during the morning rush hour today, and more than 130 persons were treated or examined at hospitals for shock and injuries.

The trains were on the Logan Square branch which taps Chicago's northwest side. Both were jammed with passengers, and the impact threw standees to the floor in struggling heaps.

Some of those aboard said they knew the collision was coming, but were unable to get a warning to the train crews in time.

The famed comedian, who has been ailing for several years, was placed under sedation.

Miss Cantor and her four sisters had provided a running gag for Cantor during his radio-television days when he would lament that he had no sons. But his affection for his five daughters was well-known.

Miss Cantor had suffered from the disease the past two years and entered Cedars of Lebanon Hospital last March 26 for the second time within a year.

Motorcycle Accident Fatally Hurts Man

MEDFORD (UPI)—Richard Lee Jolliffe, 24, Butte Falls, was fatally injured Sunday when his motorcycle left Butte Falls road about 23 miles northeast of here and plunged down a 12-foot embankment.

State police said apparently there were no witnesses to the accident. Jolliffe's body was found lodged against the post of a barbed wire fence.

MAN IS RESCUED FROM 'HOT CAR' BY 3 POLICEMEN

PORTLAND (UPI)—Three policemen took a chance on death here Sunday when they pulled a 45-year-old man from an automobile surrounded by hot electric wires.

A car driven by Francis A. Fugere, struck and broke off an electric pole. The pole landed on top of the vehicle and was carried about 33 feet before the car came to a stop. No wires touched the car, but were hanging around it.

"We told him to stay in his car," Patrolman Louie de Giovanni said, "or he would be a dead man."

Helping de Giovanni were patrolman Reginald Bowles and John Traver. Voltage in the wires was estimated a \$300 by PGE and P&L spokesmen. Both companies had wires on the pole.

Mrs. H.S. Truman Undergoes Surgery

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (UPI)—Mrs. Harry S. Truman, wife of the former President, underwent surgery for an undisclosed ailment today at Research Hospital.

There was no indication as to the nature of the operation or the length of time it would require.

Mrs. Truman, 74, entered the hospital last Thursday for tests and a "routine checkup." The troublesome condition was discovered during the diagnostic tests.

Although the nature of the surgery was not revealed, Dr. Wallace Graham, the family doctor and White House physician when Truman was president, earlier said that Mrs. Truman would be in the hospital "quite a while."

McKINNIS TO SPEAK

State Representative Donald McKinnis of Summerville will be the main speaker at the La Grande Rotary club luncheon Tuesday. McKinnis will talk on the recently concluded state legislative session.

Chinese Reds Shell Matsu

TAIPEI, Formosa (UPI)—A Chinese Communist bombardment of Matsu Island in the Formosa Straits Sunday apparently was designed to strengthen the Soviets' hand at the Geneva foreign ministers conference, informed sources said today.

The Communists, making their first large scale bombardment of Matsu, killed three persons and wounded eight as they hurled 444 shells in 90 minutes.

Matsu, one of the offshore islands in the American-patrolled Formosa Straits, is 150 miles north of the frequently shelled Quemoy Islands. It is far enough off shore to have been relatively untouched in past bombardments but the Communists have been bringing in bigger guns.

Chinese Nationalist sources have predicted stepped-up Communist activity in the Formosa Straits to coincide with the Geneva East-West meeting and said there might be new assaults against the Quemoy Islands hit by more than 600,000 shells last summer.

Truck Driver Held In Oregon Slaying

RENO (UPI)—Edward J. O'Conner, 38, a truck driver from Gilmer, Neb., was held for questioning today in connection with a murder in Rome, Ore.

The victim, Thomas Potter, 62, San Francisco, was found beaten to death in a Rome motel Saturday. The motel register showed that O'Conner and Potter checked into the motel Friday, according to Oregon authorities.

O'Conner was arrested late Saturday when he attempted to cash several travelers checks bearing the victim's name. Police said they found Potter's car abandoned near Winnemucca, Nev.

Oregon authorities said Potter, a Southern Pacific Railroad employee, may have been killed with one of the specimens of rock which he collected as a hobby.

O'Conner had several rocks in his pocket when he was arrested here, but he refused to comment on the slaying.

Thomas S. Gates Jr. Named Deputy Defense Secretary

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Eisenhower today announced his selection of Navy Secretary Thomas S. Gates Jr. to succeed the late Donald A. Quarles as deputy defense secretary.

Eisenhower will submit Gates' nomination to the Senate Tuesday.

Gates resigned earlier this year as secretary of Navy, effective May 30, to return to the investment banking business. But apparently after the death of Quarles the President and Defense Secretary Neil H. McElroy persuaded him to remain in government as deputy defense secretary.

The announcement came soon after McElroy announced he had called in Adm. Arthur W. Radford, retired, as consultant during the absence of Gen. Nathan F. Twining, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Twining is recuperating from a lung cancer operation.

Radford was Twining's predecessor as chairman of the Joint Chiefs.

Gates' resignation as navy secretary was announced Jan. 30. William B. Franke was nominated to succeed him.

Gates, 53, a native of Germantown, Pa. has been in the Defense Department since 1953 when he was made undersecretary of Navy. He has been Navy secretary since March, 1957.

Before joining the government, Gates was a partner in Drexel and Co., a Philadelphia investment firm. He is a Republican.



THOMAS S. GATES JR.
To Succeed Quarles

Fincher Is Fined For Killing Elk

Larry Lee Fincher, La Grande, was fined \$100 plus \$4.50 justice court costs this morning after pleading guilty to killing a cow elk out of season.

Fincher appeared in Judge George Millers court on a State Police citation after a cow elk had been found hanging in his basement.

FREE-FOR-ALL IN 1960

Oregon's New Primary Law Gains National Attention

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Oregon's new presidential primary law is getting attention from politicians here because it seems to suggest possibilities for free-for-all contests in 1960.

It could put unannounced but potential candidates for the presidency on the spot. Affected could be Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York on the Republican side and Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas and Sen. Stuart Symington of Missouri among the Democrats.

The law contains an old provision allowing candidates to be entered in the Oregon presidential primaries by petition.

A new provision gives the secretary of state "sole discretion" to

enter other candidates who are "generally advocated or recognized in national news media throughout the United States."

Once the state official has made that determination, a candidate can withdraw only by filing an affidavit "stating without qualification that he is not, now and does not intend to become a candidate."

Among possible Democratic candidates, Sens. John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts and Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota are expected to be entered in state presidential primaries. Oregon is regarded as a probable setting, along with Wisconsin, for a contest between them.

On the Republican side, Vice

President Richard M. Nixon is an expected entrant in the presidential primaries.

There has been no sign, however, that Rockefeller, Johnson, Symington or some of the other potential candidates have any interest in making a showing in these state contests. Yet they have backers within the party organizations and appear to be "recognized in national news media" as candidates.

While the Oregon Legislature's action this year may have broadened the field for the presidential primary in that state, Minnesota and Montana put an end to presidential primaries. Their legislatures repealed their presidential primary laws.