



SOROPTIMIST CONVENTION OPENS

Heading and speaking at various sessions here will be (left to right) Borgehild Helgesen, governor of the Northwest region; Betty Faulkner, publicity chairman; Eloise Hamilton, director of district 2; Hilda Fries, district secretary; and Raema Lawrence, president of the local club. (Observer Photo)

Typhoon Vera Roars Into Japan With Heavy Casualties Feared

TOKYO (UPI)—Typhoon Vera packing 135 mph winds hit the heavily populated mid-section of Japan tonight and first reports indicated casualties and damages would be heavy. At least 13 persons were dead, 69 injured and there were 47 missing. But communications were

knocked out over a wide area and these figures were believed to be only a fragment of the total. First reports said 173 houses were destroyed, 28 of them completely washed away. More than 12,000 homes were flooded and more than 40,000 acres were under water.

The city of Nagoya, 150 miles west of Tokyo was knocked out with a complete power failure. All telephones and public transportation were disabled.

The British owned vessel, Changsha, capable of carrying more than 100 persons, was reported aground near Nagoya and in danger of being pounded to bits by typhoon tossed seas. Most of the passengers on the Melbourne-to-Japan ship were believed to be Australians.

The typhoon was one of the most powerful, broad and dangerous in recent years. It was expected to spare this

La Grande UF Drive Date Set

Initial planning for the 1959 La Grande United Fund campaign was completed Friday at a meeting of the UF committee, and it was announced that the drive would open Oct. 14.

The annual leadership gifts campaign, however, gets underway Thursday. The overall United Fund goal of \$31,484.54 is hoped for.

The kickoff breakfast for campaign workers is scheduled at 7 a.m., Oct. 14, at the Sacajawea.

A house-to-house canvass is included as part of the regular fund drive. All participating agencies are taking an active part in this year's appeal.

Committees Named
Assisting campaign chairman Ed Watts in the UF organization are the following:

David Baum and A. B. Olson, co-chairmen of leadership gifts; Lee Stoner and Bob Carey, leadership employe's gifts; Willard Carey, clubs and organizations; Milo Blokland, Mt. Emily Lumber Company; O. D. Christopherson and J. C. Ladd, Union Pacific Railroad; Harvey Carter, public schools; Dr. Ernest Anderson, Eastern Oregon College; Ralph Beck, general business and employes; and Dr. Martha Addy, house canvass.

UF president June McManus announced that campaign headquarters will be in the lobby of the Sacajawea, with Florence Hardy, UF secretary, having her office there.

10 Navy Airmen Are Rescued Off Oregon Coast

SEATTLE, Wash. (UPI)—Ten Navy airmen were picked up from two life rafts off the Oregon Coast early today by the Coast Guard ship Yacoma.

The Yacoma, and the freighter Olympia Pioneer were directed to a position 11 miles west-southwest of the Columbia River mouth Friday night after the Navy men ditched their PSM seaplane in the Pacific Ocean. A Coast Guard plane spotted the survivors, dropped a portable radio set and determined that all 10 men escaped their disabled plane without injury.

Both rescue ships reached the area where flares marked the position of the rafts but the Yacoma reached the scene first and made the pickups.

During the night, search airplanes circled over the life rafts, keeping tabs on their position by the flares kept burning aboard the rafts.

Red Rebellion In Laos Is Said Increasing

VIENTIANE, Laos (UPI)—The Communist rebellion against the royal government of Laos has spread to the southern regions of the country, it was disclosed today.

Acting Foreign Minister Sisouk Nachampassak said five Communist Pathet Lao rebels were wounded and two captured in skirmishes with government troops in southern provinces.

He said the skirmishes were at Ban Dantalat in Champassak Province and at Ban Van Mohn in Thakhek Province.

Up to this week the fighting has been centered in the northern provinces of Phongsaly and Samneua.

But the government reported Friday that Pathet Lao rebels had ambushed government troops east of Vientiane City Thursday in one of the fiercest clashes in Vientiane Province so far.

The government was said to have suffered a number of casualties in the engagement but there were no further details.

In the north, the government was said to be holding fast to the outposts of Xieng Kho, Sop Sai and Sop Hao which the Reds captured Aug. 30 and then lost back to the government troops.

Military officials said no "important activities" were reported from the area.

Motorist Collides With Pickup Truck

A La Grande driver collided with a parked pickup truck and pushed it approximately 35 feet into a yard early this morning, according to police.

Gerald Wesley Taal, 1609 Washington Ave., was traveling east on Adams Avenue when he swerved to avoid a bright flash, police stated.

The pickup truck belonged to Merton Dale Taylor, 1906 1/2 Adams Ave., and the vehicle was parked in front of his residence at the time of the accident.

No injuries were reported in the accident that occurred at 2:55 a.m.

'Killer' Insect Loose

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (UPI)—A disease that acts like polio and meningitis and is transmitted in the bite of "killer" mosquitoes spread uneasiness today through parts of rural southern New Jersey.

It may have been responsible for the deaths of nine persons, mostly children, and the hospitalization of at least eight others. Two cases have been confirmed, including one death.

The disease is eastern equine encephalitis, according to the state health department. Until Friday, it had not been identified because of the slowness in isolating the deadly virus.

The suspense of not knowing what they were up against had heightened the concern of most south Jersey residents. It may ease their worries now that they know, but the end still is not in sight.

Health officials face the task of stamping out the disease before it kills others or before it becomes a full-blown epidemic.

Some state officials feel that it already has reached that stage in a three-county south Jersey area which has been hardest hit.

Students Register At EOC

This weekend will find approximately 500 more students on the Eastern Oregon College campus as upperclassmen began to register Saturday.

According to Dr. Lyle H. Johnson, EOC registrar, returning students began to register at 8 a.m. Saturday, in Walter M. Pierce library.

"The Student Days" officially draws to a close Sunday as each student is invited to attend the church of his choice. Saturday, the last full day in the orientation program, saw:

9 a.m.—La Grande-Union County Chamber of Commerce assembly; 10 a.m.—La Grande Business Day; 8 p.m.—football game, EOC vs College of Idaho.

Monday at 7 a.m. marks the official beginning of the fall term as classes get underway.

Local FFA Boys Judge Livestock At Pendleton

Participating in the livestock judging contest at the Umatilla Fat Stock Show at Pendleton Saturday was the livestock judging team from La Grande High School.

The local FFA chapter members making the trip were Mike Campbell, Larry Courtright, Bruce Rynearson, Larry Campbell and Tom MacGregor. Taking the boys to Pendleton was Mrs. Dennis Campbell.

'Gracie' No Threat

MIAMI (UPI)—Hurricane Gracie, who apparently didn't have her picture taken yesterday by a camera-carrying rocket, wallowed frowzily in the Atlantic today well off the Florida east coast.

The U.S. weather bureau here reported that at 11 p.m. (est) the hurricane, with winds up to 75 miles per hour, was about 350 miles east of Cape Canaveral and moving northward at about 5 miles per hour.

The bureau said Gracie was expected to maintain her northward movement during the next 12 to 18 hours, but said there was some likelihood of an increase in forward movement and a trend toward the north-northwest thereafter.

Little change was indicated in size or intensity, the bureau said. Though Gracie remained virtually stationary late last night, the bureau warned interests along the Carolinas coast to keep in touch until it is definitely established whether the hurricane will affect them or remain at sea.

Probers On New Leads Over Mystery Death Of Divorcee

BOSTON (UPI)—A packet of love letters and information from veteran harbor pilots today sent investigators off on a new course in the death of pretty Lynn Kauffman.

The latest information from Capt. James V. Crowley, the police harbor master, further con-

fused the case which Capt. Joseph B. Fallon, who is heading the investigation, has already admitted to be the most perplexing in his 21 years of police work.

Crowley Friday rounded up several veteran harbor pilots and conferred with them throughout the day. Late Friday night he filed a report which said he and the pilots agreed it was impossible for the girl to have gone overboard from the Dutch freighter Utrecht at the time originally believed.

Crowley's detailed report, which considered tides, currents, the weather and other data, concluded that Mrs. Kauffman was already in the water when persons aboard ship reported talking with her through a cabin door.

The body of the 23-year-old divorcee was found near Spectacle Island last Saturday. She vanished from the Utrecht the night before after it left here for New York.

The skipper of the Utrecht reported he spoke with the girl after 7 p.m. when the vessel was well beyond Spectacle Island. Mrs. Juanita Spector, Mrs. Kauffman's traveling companion, also spoke with the girl—again through a closed door—about the same time.

Fallon Friday night indicated he was considering the possibility that neither Mrs. Spector nor the skipper spoke with Mrs. Kauffman but with some unknown person who impersonated her.

LONE SOVIET 'MOUTHPIECE'

CAMP DAVID, Md. (UPI)—What happens in the middle of the night if Premier Khrushchev wakes up in President Eisenhower's cottage and wants something?

Khrushchev would have to get out of bed, pad across the hall and knock on the door of Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko who can speak English.

The American and Russian interpreters are sleeping in other cottages.

Ike, Khrushchev Air 'Cold War' Problems Over Breakfast Table

Ex-Miss America Beauty Gunned To Death With Notorious Hood

NEW YORK (UPI)—A honey blonde former Miss America candidate and "Little Augie" Pisano, for years one of the nation's most notorious crime overlords, were shot gangland style in the mobster's Cadillac last night in a quiet Queens residential neighborhood.

Two assassins were seen running from the death car and fled either in a taxi or a waiting getaway car.

Residents of the neighborhood, hearing a fusillade of shots, ran out and found the 61-year-old hoodlum slumped over the steering wheel, blood streaming from his head.

Alongside him was Mrs. Janice Drake, 32, the beautiful honey-blonde wife of comedian Alan Drake, who won 32 beauty contests in her teens and reigned as Miss New Jersey in 1944.

She was then known as "the girl with the most beautiful legs in the world". Following her failure to win the Miss America title, she drifted into obscurity and apparently became friendly with gangland overlords.

She was questioned in the murder of Nat (The Manufacturer) Nelson who was shot in 1952 two hours after a date with the curvy blonde. She also was questioned

Authorities quoted Drake as saying Pisano, whose real name was Anthony Carfano, was a friend of his and his wife.

Long Criminal Career
Pisano's slaying ended one of the most notorious criminal careers in the annals of American crime. A onetime eastern "lieutenant" of Al Capone, the short, stocky crime lord had, over a 30-year period, been a partner-in-crime with such underworld figures as Lucky Luciano and Frank Costello.

Pisano's record showed scores of arrests, several for murder, but not one conviction. In recent years, his activities were understood to have dwindled, and he had become regarded as something of an elder-statesman in the underworld. He kept a stable and was known for his interest in horse racing.

Police said Pisano and Mrs. Drake had dined earlier in the evening with "other people" at Marino's Restaurant in midtown Manhattan. From there, they apparently drove to the murder site, about eight miles from the restaurant.

No Motive
Police, admittedly without a motive for the double-slaying, immediately began a roundup of underworld associates of Pisano. He was known to have been active in a wide variety of rackets.

A red address book, found on Pisano, was believed to have contained a veritable "who's who of the underworld," many of whom were to be questioned by police.

Police also were interrogating Mrs. Drake's husband, a television and nightclub comedian who was appearing in a Washington night spot with Singer Tony Martin at the time of the slayings. He hurried here from Washington.

FORMAL CONFAB SLATED

GETTYSBURG, Pa. (UPI)

President Eisenhower and Soviet Premier Khrushchev resumed their crucial cold war talks over the breakfast table at Camp David, Md., early today, seeking to determine whether they can chart a course to ease east-west relations.

The President and the Soviet leader met for breakfast at 8:15 a.m. ed, in the President's cottage overlooking a Maryland mountain valley which today was shrouded by dark, low lying clouds.

According to the White House, Eisenhower and Khrushchev resumed at the breakfast table the informal conversations begun last evening at the presidential mountain retreat.

A more formal business session including Secretary of State Christian A. Herter and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko got underway on the long porch of the cottage shortly after 9 a.m.

Vice President Richard M. Nixon, originally scheduled to reach Camp David by helicopter at 9 a.m. drove from Washington, making his arrival at the camp about one hour late.

Other conference participants were expected by automobile later in the morning.

U.S. officials expected the morning meeting to run between 2 1/2 and 3 hours, followed by a break for lunch and possibly separate conferences by the American and Soviet delegations before joint business sessions resume in the early afternoon.

Eisenhower and Khrushchev were probing each other's minds to determine whether any solution of cold war tensions is really possible.

By nightfall, they should know. The early propaganda skirmishing was over. The position papers prepared by their foreign ministers were before them.

It was up to Eisenhower and Khrushchev, lounging in the club-by-luxury of the President's cottage on a Maryland mountain top 26 miles south of here, to work out of the diplomatic morass that has marked American-Soviet relations since World War II.

Others Expected
Later in the day, experts from the fields of defense, atomic energy and foreign trade were expected at Camp David. They represented the top echelons of both governments.

The Russians were content for the moment to let White House Press Secretary James C. Hagerty secretary of state for public affairs, do all the talking. Official Soviet spokesmen were mum.

FFA State Officers Here For 'Degree'

State officers of the Future Farmers of America will be in La Grande Sunday to conduct the formal "Greenhand" and Chapter Farmer Degree initiation for all Union County chapters.

The special ceremony, open to the public will be held at the La Grande High School auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

Ed Glenn, Lostine, state president; Lonny Fendell, Newberg, state vice president; Paul Sequist, Vale, state reporter; and Dick Wooten, St. Helens, secretary, will arrive in La Grande early Sunday afternoon.

The state officers will make a tour of the valley and will be guests of the Union County Agricultural Instructors and FFA chapter presidents at the Norman Koopman home for dinner.

On Monday, the group will attend the noon meeting of the Lions Club and will then visit the La Grande FFA chapter.

High School Gets Special Sewer Charge

A motion to allow La Grande High School a special rate on the soon-to-be discontinued storm sewer charge has been approved by city commissioners.

A letter to the commission signed by Superintendent Lyle N. Riggs requested the rate during the summer months since the water piped through the school's meter is used only for irrigation of lawns.

The letter stated that of the school's July bill, \$67.05 of the total \$251.95 was for the storm sewer fund. This is the highest rate ever paid by the school and the increase was primarily due to irrigation during the month.

The commission will cancel next month's charge against the school and accept the \$67.05 as payment for August's charge in addition to July's.

Improvement District
City commissioners also have accepted and placed on file a petition for water main extension improvement district No. 11. The proposed district will be on Walnut Street between Grandy and Palmer Avenues. Persons signing the petition represented 100 per cent of property ownership in the area that will cover approximately three blocks.

An ordinance giving the city manager power to enter into a lease with the Maverick's Riding Club has been approved by the commission. The agreement will run for five years and the city will pay an annual rental fee of \$100 as a site for their rock crusher.



JUDGE AT HIS DESK

Judge C. K. McCormick, Union County juvenile and probate jurist here, has devoted more time in public office than any other Union County official—25 years as court clerk and now serving on his third six-year elective post as judge—and shares continuous, long-term public service honors with only two other Oregon county officials. Although much of his work is of routine nature, he enjoys every minute of it. (Observer Photo)

'DEAN OF THE COURTHOUSE'

Judge C. K. McCormick Looks Back At Lengthy Public Career

By GRADY PANNELL
Observer Staff Writer

Union County Judge C. K. (Kenneth) McCormick ranks as the dean of the courthouse here in La Grande, and there's a good reason.

The judge has been in the public pictures for more years than any other person at the county seat and holds the record — and then some — of any county official in terms of longevity.

The courthouse "dean" also is tied, as far as can be determined, with one or two other public county officials in Oregon.

Judge McCormick's career as a public official began during the outbreak of World War I. He was first elected to office here as county clerk in 1916 but had served as a deputy clerk several years before.

First Appointed
His judicial life began in April of 1933 when he was appointed to

fill the unexpired term of his predecessor, who died, and he has been acting on juvenile and probate cases ever since.

He was elected to the judgeship in 1944 (terms run for six years), and is now serving his third elective term.

His 25-year role as county clerk is unmatched, however, in Union County, and it was through this type of work that he picked up a vast and thorough understanding of law.

Judge McCormick is not a barrister, but he handles the type of legal work his office requires with finesse and foresight, courthouse friends say.

Born and raised in Kansas City, Mo., he came to this area to live at the age of 21—that was back in 1909. Today he is a spry man with graying hair and fond memories of his role as a public official.

Work Is Routine
"My work pretty much is rou-

line," he said, and he couldn't recall any phase of his courthouse life which was nothing but routine, but he has treasured every moment of it.

He remembered that when he first went to work at the courthouse as a deputy clerk, and later became its long-time clerk, Union County roads were poor. "New roads were in those days," he said.

Unmarried, Judge McCormick looking ahead to the future in public work with no plans for slinging sand at the county courthouse grind.

About the only excitement he remembers at the county seat when a fire burned off the roof of the institution? He was a clerk then and he had to be moved until the out structure could be repaired.

The judge is a past president of the Association of Oregon Judges and attends the trials. He has hosts of friends and a role throughout Or-