



THE 'GIFT OF GIVING'

DOUG HIATT, La Grande Junior High School ninth grader, presents gift of food, to Lt. Oakley Sommers, Salvation Army officer here, in behalf of the student body. The food was gathered at an assembly yesterday. (Observer)

Americans 'Everywhere' Today Are Observing Thanksgiving

United Press International In city slums, in stately mansions, in isolated farm houses, Americans today are observing Thanksgiving.

The traditional Thanksgiving Day feast crowded tables from coast to coast and for many it was turkey with all the trimmings, including cranberries.

For some, however, there was death. **United Press International** counted 34 traffic fatalities since the holiday began at 6 p.m. Wednesday. In the 16-hour period there were two fire deaths and one miscellaneous fatality for a total of 37.

Ohio led the early parade of death with two highway fatalities. Florida, Michigan, New York, Virginia and Oklahoma reported one death each.

The National Safety Council did not estimate a national traffic death toll for the 30-hour holiday, from 6 p.m. local time, Wednesday night to midnight tonight. But the council said the average traf-

fic toll for a 30-hour period at this time of year is 90 and predicted the Thanksgiving casualty count would go little higher than that, since the turkey day holiday is not a time for drinking parties and "one for the road" drivers.

The weather put a crimp in many holiday plans by sending a blizzard howling out of Montana through Iowa and laying a snow-

ice mixture on Tennessee highways. The storm brought eight inches of snow to Montana, four inches to parts of Iowa and Tennessee and three inches to Colorado. The snow, accompanied by freezing temperatures and driving winds, turned highways to ice and raised official fears of a traffic slaughter.

A 26-member citizens committee was appointed by the city commission last night to study the sewage disposal system problem and come up with a specific proposal by Feb. 3.

'EXPLODING POPULATION'

Church Leaders Take Opposite Positions Over Birth Control

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Two noted Protestant leaders today deplored a statement by U.S. Catholic bishops opposing any use of

foreign aid funds to promote "artificial birth prevention" in countries suffering from population pressures.

Episcopal Bishop James A. Pike of San Francisco said the stand taken by the Catholic hierarchy would "condemn rapidly increasing millions of people in less fortunate parts of the world to starvation, bondage, misery and despair."

Other members of the study group include: Dr. J. Deatherage, 1302 West St.; Al Long, 2001 Second St.; Lee Stoner, 1501 Oak St.; Oville Lee, 1414 Walnut St.; Robert C. McFarland, 1705 Alder St.; Gerald Twidwell, 1511 W. Ave.; Herman Skala, 1407 Sixth St.; Alford Hatt, 1807 V. Ave.; Harvey West, 1806 V. Ave.; Virgil Bolin, 2904 Birch St.; Emerson Smoek, 202 Walnut St.; Carlos Easley, 503 Fourth St.; Ken Lillard, 1316 Alder St.

He demanded to know whether the policy enunciated by the bishops is "binding on Roman Catholic candidates for public office."

Dr. John C. Bennett, dean of Union Theological Seminary in New York, said it was tragic to see Catholic leaders pressing "a point of view on birth control which has no sound moral or religious basis, and which has been rejected by most other Christian groups."

The prelates served notice that American Catholics would not support any use of public funds to help establish programs of "artificial birth prevention" at home or abroad.

They reiterated the long-standing Catholic position that the only "natural" and therefore "morally permissible" means of limiting births was through periodic abstinence from sexual relations.

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Thanksgiving Day Blizzard Sweeps Out Of The Rockies

Big Area Hard-Hit By Snow

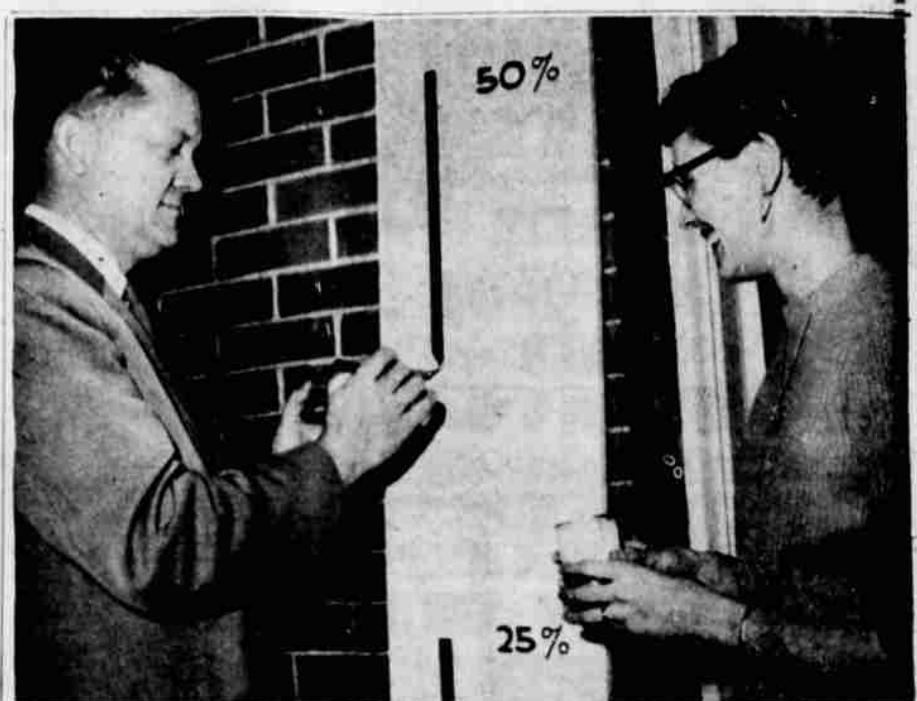
United Press International A Thanksgiving Day storm swept out of the Rockies into the Midwest today, burying states from Montana to Indiana under two to eight inches of snow.

The snow spread from the Dakotas, Southern Minnesota and Iowa through the southern Great Lakes and into Central Illinois and Indiana during the night and was expected to move into Northern Missouri and Northern Ohio today.

Meanwhile, Florida recovered from a series of violent thunder squalls that caused thousands of dollars damage and Western Washington officials watched their rivers recede toward their banks and predicted the state's worst flood in 27 years "might be over."

The snows, pushed by strong winds, dumped eight inches on Montana, three to five inches on North Dakota, and two to three inches in Colorado through Central Illinois. Lander, Wyo., reported an isolated two-inch fall.

South of the snow area sleet put a hard glaze on highways from Arkansas into Kentucky and Tennessee. Four inches of snow fell on the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, causing driving hazards.



MECURY CLIMBS ON UF THERMOMETER

Dave Baum, La Grande United Fund drive chairman, paints UF thermometer at the Sacajawea Hotel as contributions to the fund reach 50 per cent of the total goal of \$39,500. More than 100 businesses are yet to be contacted in the current drive, Baum said. Holding the paint for the chairman is Florence Hardy, drive secretary. (Observer Photo)

Flood Receding In Washington

SEATTLE (UPI) — Western Washington rivers continued their slow drop today, leading civil defense officials in all flood-stricken areas to believe "it might be over."

There was one flash of trouble late Wednesday when a 200-foot break appeared in a dike along the Green River but Army engineers moved in with big equipment and stopped the gap before any great damage could be done.

'Disputed' Paintings To Be Shown

HOLLYWOOD (UPI) — The owners of 10 disputed paintings said Tuesday the reputed masterpieces shortly will be offered for public viewing and examination by experts.

The announcement was made after owners of the paintings and their agent said they had resolved their "internal differences" stemming from last Thursday's press conference in which finding of the paintings was made public. The owners claimed they weren't told about the press conference until it was over.

Disputes about the authenticity and worth of the paintings raged in both Europe and the United States, but attorneys for the owners — Tony and Alfonso Follo and Maria Hataburda — and their agent Charles Di Renzo said they "firmly announce their belief as to the authenticity of the collection."

The announcement also said that preparations for a public showing would take "several days" but that they will be available for expert scrutiny.

Santa Claus Makes Official Visit To La Grande Friday

Santa Claus makes his first appearance in La Grande tomorrow for official opening of the Christmas season.

Santa, in a special message to the Observer today, said that he gets here at 7:30 p.m. with a sleigh full of candy canes to carry out this year's theme of "Candy Cane Lane."

Fresh from a toy factory at the North Pole, Santa will greet local youngsters and spend the night here for another appearance Saturday at 2 p.m.

The La Grande High School band will be on hand to assist Santa with the chore of entertaining children.



4-H CLUB MEMBERS RECEIVE CARDS

Union County's final 4-H achievement program for 1959 was held at the Central School recently. More than 800 county 4-H Club members have received recognition during the past month. Elmer Bierly is shown presenting cards to two 4-H girls. Bierly represented the First National Bank at the special awards program. Naomi Harsin smiles as Bierly hands Peggy Flanery her 4-H card. Programs were held throughout the county to honor youngsters who have completed projects during the year in 4-H. (Observer Photo)

Christmas Season Officially Opens Along 'Candy Cane Lane' Tomorrow