

WEATHER

Fair through Tuesday with morning fog patches; highs 36-42; low 12-18.

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THANK YOU, SANTA CLAUS

Sandra Courtright, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Burr Courtright, La Grande, accepts a gift from Santa during his visit at the Blue Mountain Grange. More than 80 members and guests attended the dinner and evening program here Saturday. (Observer Photo)

Last Old Civil War Vet Dead

HOUSTON, Tex. (UPI)—Crowds of American citizens today filed past the bier of the last veteran of the Civil War.

Walter Washington Williams, 117, died Saturday. His body, dressed in a grey Confederate general's uniform with a star on each side of the collar, lay in a blue and grey casket draped with the Confederate flag.

Across the world, American flags were flying at half staff. President Eisenhower Sunday proclaimed a period of national mourning until Williams is buried Wednesday near his old farm at Franklin, Tex.

See Page 7 (MISH MASH) for story about old Texas Confederate general)

Williams had fought off four attacks of pneumonia this year. At times, he had to be fed with an eyedropper. His death was directly caused by a blood clot in the large vessel leading to the brain, according to his physician Dr. Russell Wolfe. Contributing factors were the after effects of pneumonia, under-nourishment and old age. "He just quit breathing," Wolfe said.



WALTER WILLIAMS

7 Nominees For Chamber Directorship

Seven local residents have been nominated to fill three positions on the La Grande Chamber of Commerce board of directors. Ballots are being mailed to the membership of the organization, Florence Stodgrass, chamber manager, has announced.

The following names have been submitted to the membership: Riley D. Allen, La Grande Observer; Carlos Easley, Eastern Oregon College; Mike Lynch, Gettings-Lynch Motor Co.; A. B. (Spud) Olson, California-Pacific Utilities Co.; John Sullivan, U. S. National Bank, and Ed Watts, West Coast Telephone Co. The three receiving the highest number of votes will serve three years on the board.

Nine Persons Die In Crash Of Bus

SUSPECT WAS REALLY LOADED

SPOKANE (UPI)—When Spokane detectives arrested a man who appeared to be under the influence of narcotics they found even more than they suspected. Concealed under the 31-year-old man's right arm in a sling were: —A loaded 16-gauge sawed off shotgun. —Extra shotgun shells. —A straight edge razor. —A hypodermic outfit. —A silk stocking mask. —A rubber mask. —Two bottles of a morphine derivative drug.

HOLIDAY-LADEN VEHICLE SMASHES CATTLE TRUCK

TUCSON, Ariz. (UPI)—A double-deck Greyhound bus carrying Christmas travelers collided Sunday with a trailer truck loaded with cattle, killing nine persons including a 7-year-old child and injuring 35.

Force of the impact sent some of the cattle flying through the air and into the bus among the passengers. The front of the bus was split open and smashed back like a tin can.

All of the 41 passengers and driver of the scenic-cruiser bus going from Los Angeles to New Orleans were killed or injured. The dead included four women and two men passengers, the bus driver and the two men in the truck.

Of the injured passengers, 10 suffered critical or serious injuries. The rest were treated at hospitals and released.

"A Gory Mess" "It was a gory mess," said Tommy Brooks, 41, a Tucson embalmer who was pressed into service as an ambulance driver. "Besides the bodies lying around there were cattle all over the place. One cow, still alive, was standing on top of the bus. It finally jumped to the ground." Arizona highway patrolman Jimmy Williams, 30, a patrolman for five years, said: "It was one of the most horrible things I've ever seen in my life. The bus was mangled completely up to the back deck—torn into shreds."

The dead and injured had to be removed from the bus through windows. Three servicemen passengers, suffering minor injuries, smashed out windows and helped patrolmen remove the more seriously injured.

30 Cattle Killed Thirty cattle, mostly calves, were killed aboard the two-level trailer-tractor. About 10 were destroyed humanely by officers and several of the frightened beasts ran off into the desert.

"This is the worst accident in Western Greyhound history," said O. D. Gould, general claims director of Western Greyhound in San Francisco. He said the bus was the second part of a scheduled trip from Los Angeles to New Orleans. The bus was added because of the heavy Christmas travel.

The pre-Christmas crash occurred on a section of U.S. Highway 80 about 11 miles east of here. Officers said James Stewart, Del Rio, Tex., driver of the cattle truck, apparently became confused when the four-highway narrowed to two lanes and swung his truck into the wrong lane. Speed of the two vehicles was undetermined.

Five hospitals in the area were used to treat the injured. Draft Board Closed Local Board 24 of the Selective Service System will be closed from Dec. 22 to Dec. 29, Clerk Jola Olson has announced.

Temperatures in eastern Oregon ranged down to 11 above at Burns in the 4 a.m. official readings. It remained cool in southern Oregon, too, with Medford having a low of 25.

Ultimatum To Oregon Motorists

SALEM (UPI)—Gov. Mark Hatfield has notified all mayors and sheriffs in Oregon that he has directed state police to set up interception stations at unannounced locations on state highways for Christmas eve and New Year's eve.

Hatfield said the move is an effort to "apprehend drivers without licenses, those who are intoxicated and others in obvious violation." "Oregon's tragic death toll requires unusual measures and I urge you to join with me by also establishing rigid local preventive measures for drivers during these two holiday periods."

Hatfield continued: "Only by city, county and state law enforcement agencies using their maximum efforts can we accomplish an effective check on the drive-ability of our citizens during these days of heavy holiday traffic."

Oregon Finds Last Day Of Fall Variable

By United Press International Fog west of the Cascades and freezing temperatures east of the mountains ushered in the last day of fall in Oregon today. Winter officially arrives at 6:35 a.m. Tuesday.

The weather bureau said ground fog was reported from Medford north through Washington's Puget Sound area. East of the mountains skies were partly cloudy to clear, with fog in some valleys.

A weak storm front located about 400 miles off the coast threatens to bring a little rain into western Oregon tonight or early Tuesday.

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Ike In Message Of Good Will To Million Cheering Spaniards

MADRID (UPI)—President Eisenhower arrived here today on the last lap of his "peace and friendship in freedom" crusade and was greeted by about one million Spaniards who hailed him as the world's "ambassador of peace."

The President's sleek jet transport touched down at nearby Torrejon Air Base in late afternoon after a short flight from Paris. The skies were leaden, the winds were chilly but the President's words were hopeful and the welcoming crowd's reception was warm.

Eisenhower told the throng at the U. S.-built and operated air base that he had come "with a message from the American people to the Spanish people." He said his message dealt with "a brighter future in cooperation with the noblest of all human causes: Peace and friendship in freedom."

Generalissimo Francisco Franco, Spain's chief of state who led the welcoming in colorful ceremonies at the air base, responded with a brief speech rich in the imagery of the Spanish language. Lavishly Decorated City Then the two heads of state and their entourages set out on a triumphant trip into the center of Madrid, with the streets lined with half the population of two million and decorated lavishly in honor of the President's visit.

The mayor of Madrid presented Eisenhower with the keys to the city, and tremendous cheers rolled up from the crowds—in some places packed 50-deep—as the procession rolled toward the Moncloa Palace where the President will stay until Tuesday. The President will wind up his journey to three continents with a visit to Morocco Tuesday and a return to Washington Tuesday night for the Christmas holidays.

Wants Golden Age Speaking to a large welcoming crowd at heavily guarded Torrejon, 13 miles outside Madrid, Eisenhower said "on this mission, I say to Spain and the Spaniards, let us work together so that in our own days we may see a long advance toward a world free from aggression, from hunger and disease, free from war and a constant threat of war."

"Let us work together so that we may pass on to our children a golden promise that mankind will achieve peace with justice, friendship in freedom." Eisenhower became the first American President in office ever to set foot on Spanish soil.

I found myself lost once in the murky water and when I resurfaced I saw I was heading out to sea instead of land." Mable went to the rescue of Roland Moore, also 22 and his cousin, when one of the two air hoses on Moore's self-contained breathing apparatus detached from the air tank.

"I was getting as much water as I was air," said Moore. "I knew I was in bad shape. I dropped my 17-pound weight belt and tried to make in for shore. But I kept swallowing water. I began to lose consciousness. I figured my number was up and I began to pray." Mable said he just finished spearing a fish and was looking for Moore when he spotted his cousin's hand jutting from the water and swam to him.

Heroic Rescue Of Skindiver PALOS VERDES ESTATES, Calif. (UPI)—A 22-year-old skindiver dragged an unconscious skindiving friend 150 yards along the Pacific Ocean bottom yesterday in an unusual rescue. Both were equipped with apparatus.

"Because of four-foot surface waves beating against our air tanks and smashing us back to sea, I pulled Ronnie to the bottom and dragged him over rocks and through depressions until we reached the shore," said William Mable.

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\$90 Theft From Filling Station La Grande Police are investigating the theft of \$90 from the Triangle-Richfield station, Spring Street and Fourth Avenue, Sunday afternoon.

Preston Lohr told police that someone had entered the office of the station sometimes between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. and stole the money from a cash drawer in the office. Lohr said he had no idea who took the money. The thief left \$8 in silver in the drawer.

John Richard Nelson, 908 Division St., was cited by police for driving while his operator's license was suspended. Nelson was stopped Saturday night by police on Madison Avenue. Bail was set at \$250 and a hearing scheduled for 3 p.m. today.

BUSINESS, INDUSTRY DRAG FEET ON COST OF LIVING

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Eisenhower's chief economic adviser today accused business and industry of failing to seize every opportunity to cut prices.

Dr. Raymond Saulnier also questioned the practices of labor at the opening session of an unusual seminar sponsored by the Federal Trade Commission to show the buying public how to guard against "trickery in the market place" and phony advertising.

Saulnier, who heads the President's Council of Economic Advisers, contended that most reductions in the consumer index in recent years result from lower food costs.

"The time has come," Saulnier said, "when responsibility for the price level should be shared by industry and not shouldered exclusively by the farm community."

Asks Price Reductions The President's economic adviser urged labor to keep its demands for wage increases in line with gains in productivity. When labor follows this formula in asking for higher pay, he said, business is then afforded an opportunity to reduce prices. He urged business and industry to "grasp such opportunities."

Also at the hearing, Victor H. Nyborg, president of the Association of Better Business Bureaus, said the problem of fictitious pricing and bait advertising is not "the sinister, vicious thing" it was a year ago.

Nyborg said work by the Federal Trade Commission over the past year indicates that most businessmen voluntarily halt such practices "when the rules of the real are spelled out."

He said the press, radio and television were making valuable contributions in helping the government and Better Business Bureau fight the problem.

Advertising Refused A survey of 219 newspapers, he said, showed that they rejected advertising totaling \$8,090,400 last year because it didn't come up to snuff.

Nyborg said he agreed with the American Newspaper Publishers Association that the survey was "another clear demonstration of the fact that the daily newspaper puts its integrity ahead of all other considerations."

Broadcast media, the local radio and television stations, likewise endeavor to police the airwaves," he said, "and it should be recognized that the National Association of Broadcasters has done much to eliminate certain types of advertising."

Congressional Labor Bill Hinges On Steel Strike Developments

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Senate Democratic Whip Mike Mansfield (Mont.) said today the need for labor legislation may overshadow all business in Congress next month if the steel strike is Steelworkers walk out again Jan. 26, when the present stay-at-work court injunction expires. He would look for Congress to act quickly—perhaps in response to a presidential message.

As a result, he added, the Senate leadership may have to sidetrack its plans to bring up federal aid to school construction as the first major business of the new session which convenes Jan. 6.

Ready to go when the senators return is a two-year, \$1,100,000,000 proposal for federal aid to states on a matching basis to provide buildings and meet the acute classroom shortage.

The bill was approved by the Senate Labor and Welfare Committee in the closing days of the last session.

Tentative plans call for following the school measure with legislation to increase the federal minimum wage from \$1 to \$1.25 an hour. A labor subcommittee has approved the bill and the full committee is expected to follow suit when Congress reconvenes.

Los Angeles (UPI)—Convict-author Caryl Chessman today was sentenced to die in the San Quentin gas chamber in Feb. Superior Judge Herbert V. Walker signed the death warrant for the date recommended by Deputy District Attorney J. Miller Leavy, who prosecuted Chessman.

Chessman was not represented at the brief proceedings. Walker was assigned to reset the execution following recent refusal of the U. S. Supreme Court to grant Chessman's latest appeal.

Chessman has managed to elude previous death sentences by a series of legal maneuvers. He was convicted in May, 1948, of 17 felonies including two counts of kidnap and rape. Both counts carried death penalties.

Paris (UPI)—The western Big Three leaders today formally invited Premier Nikita Khrushchev to come here April 27 for the first of a series of Big Four summit meetings. He was expected to accept the invitation quickly.

A series of communiques and announcements issued at end of a three-day meeting of President Eisenhower with the government heads of Britain, France and West Germany made public the text of the official invitation to Khrushchev four hours after it was extended to him in Moscow.

In addition to the main communique announcing the summit bid to Khrushchev, the western Big Four issued another communique calling for an early conference to save Western Europe's economy from being torn apart by the two rival trade groups of the so-called "inner six" and "outer seven." It said the western leaders had decided to call an informal meeting in Paris in the near future, but specified no date.

The American, British and French ambassadors in Moscow called on Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko this morning and delivered oral invitations for Khrushchev to "meet together from time to time" with the western leaders.

To Discuss Disarmament The western ambassadors told Gromyko their chiefs of government will expect to discuss with Khrushchev disarmament, the German question including Berlin, and East-West relations.

In delivering the invitation and proposed agenda to Gromyko, the American ambassador was instructed to make it clear that the

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DISARMAMENT, BERLIN QUESTION

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4 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT HELP FIGHT TB CHRISTMAS SEALS 1959 CHRISTMAS GREETINGS 1959

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