

WEATHER

Partly cloudy through Tuesday; high 38-50; low tonight 20-28 except 15 some high valleys.

LA GRANDE OBSERVER

TEMPERATURE

Sunday maximum 47; night low 26. Sunset today 5:28 p.m.; sunrise Tuesday 6:40 a.m. Winds variable.

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Five Cents



OVERPARKED - AND HOW!

Convoy truck bearing small-trailer houses occupied five and one-half parking spaces on Elm Street early Monday morning. The California truck apparently developed battery trouble and the driver pulled it off the truck route so he could go on foot after a new bat-

tery. In the interval an alert police officer dutifully placed a "restricted zone" ticket on the windshield (see upper left). The department said the ticket was paid before the truck departed. (Observer Photo)

Friendly Demonstration For Ike In Puerto Rican Arrival

Fires Take Lives Of 16 Persons

United Press International Residential fires took a heavy toll of life today in areas where housewives were heating their homes against the late winter chill. Twelve children were among the 16 victims of major tragedies in three states. At Oberlin, Ohio, fire took only 13 minutes to spread through a frame home, apparently from the explosion of a defective oil heater. Seven children died in the smoke and flames, one of them Sheila Isom, 8, who left two children to safety and perished trying to rescue six more trapped by a wall of flame in a rear room. At Harrisonburg, Va., a gas explosion blasted a small frame home, killing Mrs. Little Mae Merchant, 66, and three of her grandchildren.

CHANTING CROWDS HELD BACK BY POLICE GUARD

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (UPI) — Rival factions shouting "We like Ike" and others demanding Puerto Rican independence greeted President Eisenhower today on completion of the first leg of his 15,000-mile Latin America tour. A strong police guard separated the rival demonstrators and kept them four to five hundred feet distant from the landing strip at San Juan's ultra-modern airport where the presidential 707 jet put down. The President arrived in perfect weather and he was refreshed by a nap of an hour and a half en route. Eisenhower spent 49 minutes at International Airport and then took off for Rainey Air Force Base on the other side of the island to spend the night. In his remarks here, the President cited Puerto Rico as an outstanding example of the benefits to be gained in cooperation with the United States. He praised the island commonwealth in the Caribbean as having blended the best of two economic and cultural systems which makes it a symbol for other peoples seeking to raise their status. Fast Trip in Jet In reply, Gov. Luis Munoz-Marin told the President that while Puerto Rico has the right to change its commonwealth relationship with the United States, the great majority of its people do not want to change the present status. About 10 minutes before the President landed, representatives of opposing political factions shouted at each other across the road leading to the airport—where they had been kept at a safe distance. Each group darted across the road occasionally and threw pamphlets at the opposing faction—one of which wanted to continue Puerto Rico's commonwealth status and the other which wanted immediate freedom. But prompt police action separated the groups each time. Eisenhower, smiling and relaxed, appeared to be unaware of the demonstrations as he told the crowd in his arrival remarks that he brought Puerto Rico "greetings from your fellow citizens of the 50 states of the republic." Part of the crowd burst into a chant of "We like Ike" after he had inspected the guard of honor and received formal greetings from Gov. Munoz-Marin. But there was no applause during the President's speech for the simple reason that the crowd could not hear him. There was no public address system installed. Sunday Night Speech Sunday night in Washington, the President pictured the United States as "an anchor of Free World security" and a "trustworthy shield of peace." He said the Communists were guilty of "blatant falsehood" in claiming that the United States "has held Latin America in a colonial relationship."

New Snow Storm Is Building Up

United Press International A new snow storm churning up in the Rockies today, threatening the nation with a fresh onslaught of winter. "It has all the markings of another national storm," the Chicago Weather Bureau said. "But it's too early to tell where the heavy snow will be." For the second Sunday in a row La Grande and the Grande Ronde Valley have been greeted by new snow. A fall estimated at two to three inches was recorded this Sunday. Accompanied by strong winds, snow piled up to as much as a foot in higher areas surrounding the valley. California-Pacific Utilities Co. said two power poles were blown over in the Alice area Sunday morning. They were repaired the same day. Minor line trouble occurred in La Grande as a result of the winter weather. The new snow warning came as the Midwest and East struggled to dig out from under successive storms that swept across the country over the weekend. The Middle West and Plains states were hit by eight inches of snow Sunday. The storm center moved into Canada today but some fresh snow was expected in the Northeast. Despite 2.6 inches of new snow, highway crews in Pennsylvania kept the Pennsylvania Turnpike open. A storm last week dumped up to two feet of snow on the state and forced the closing of the turnpike for the first time since it opened in 1940. A 170-mile section of the turnpike from Irwin to Gettysburg was closed for 36 hours, stranding thousands of travelers. Last week's storm also closed a 130-mile stretch of the New York State Thruway between Buffalo and Syracuse when wind-fanned drifts reached 15 feet. More than 100 persons were still stranded at the thruway's Junius Ponds service area Sunday until the superhighway was reopened to traffic. They spent two nights sleeping on tables, chairs and floors. The new storm building up in the West caused two private plane crashes. The body of Paul Noble, 26, was found in the wreckage of his light plane Sunday about 16 miles west of St. George, Utah. A four-place Cessna airplane was missing and presumed to have crashed near Bozeman, Mont., with four aboard.

Three Europeans Win Olympic Gold Medals

SQUAW VALLEY, Calif. (UPI) — A German man-lineman, a Russian school teacher and a French hotel man won gold medals in the Winter Olympics today while Carol Heiss of New York all but clinched the women's figure skating championship. George Thoma, who practices while he works because he delivers mail on skis during the winter time, won the Nordic combined skiing 100-meter speed skiff to give Russia its second gold medal in that sport, and Jean

Vaurnet, who runs a hotel in Tunis, captured the men's glamour event, the downhill ski title. Only Miss Heiss kept the day from being a complete European triumph. She had piled up such a commanding lead at the finish of the five compulsory figures that she would have to fall down, perhaps several times, in Tuesday's free skating to lose out. And the pretty blonde is rated a better free skater than compulsory. Thoma finished first in the jumping portion of the Nordic combined Sunday, and then surprised today when he finished fourth in the 15-kilometer (about 10 miles) cross-country event. That finish easily won him the combined gold medal. Miss Guseva was the first to race today and she sped the distance in one minute, 24.1 seconds. And on one in the field of 22 could beat that time. Helga Haase of Germany finished second in 1:24.3, followed by Tamara Rylava and Lidya Skoblikova, both of Russia. Thorod Kuntzen of Norway finished second in the Nordic combined, with Nikolai Guskakov of Russia, whose wife won the ladies 10-kilometer cross-country run Sunday, finished third. Ted Farwell, Montague City, Mass., topped the U. S. entries in the cross-country portion, finishing 21st in the field of 31 in 1:05:09.3. That gave him 27th place in the over-all event.



TEEN-QUEEN CHOSEN

Attractive Carole Cochran, center, was selected as Teen-Queen Saturday night and crowned in regal ceremonies held at Sacajawea ballroom by La Grande High School court participants. Supporting Carole, as

members of her court are, left to right, Sandi Boyd, Pat Fisk, male escort Bill Hermann, Kay Allen and Shirley Ann Smurthwaite. Little flower girl at bottom left is Cathie Knouse. Crown bearer is Ronnie Koopman. (Observer Photo by Joe Diehl)

47 Algerians Killed During Mountain Quake

SETIF, Algeria (UPI) — At least 47 persons were known dead today in the earthquake which shook the rugged mountains of eastern Algeria early Sunday. The violent earthquake, which was preceded by several minor tremors, toppled hundreds of huts and buried scores of victims in the debris. At least 80 persons were injured. Arab villagers said they "heard the mountains roar and saw a blinding flash of light" when the quake started. The terrifying sound of the trembling mountains was the "roar" they heard, but French officials believed the "blinding light" may have been the effects of fear.

John Deere Day Slated Wednesday

Observance of John Deere Day here is set for Wednesday at Inland Machinery Co. according to Ned Jones, manager. Jones said that plenty of trucks can be had for those in attendance, as well as available seating for the showing of films.

Report on the new John Deere 435 Diesel tractor by film is expected to create a favorable reaction, Jones said. Other machinery to be shown by film includes the new farming, and grain drier. TV commentator Walter Kroonke will emcee the film presentation. Another film that is expected to attract the crowd is "Oddities in Farming." This picture will take the audience from Arkansas to Minnesota to see types of agriculture as unusual and varied as these states are far apart. Door prizes will be presented at the conclusion of the show, Jones added.

PASSAGE HOPED FOR

Controversial Civil Rights Legislation Will Be Debated

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson (Tex.) said today he had no present plans for setting aside Senate debate on civil rights. Johnson told newsmen, "Our decision now is to pass a civil rights bill" and the Senate will stay on the subject and not await House action. The Senate leader did not close the door on sidetracking of the debate temporarily to pass important appropriation bills. But he said a decision would not be made until the money bills are ready. Chairman Carl Hayden (D-Ariz.) of the appropriations committee has said he does not think the civil rights debate should be allowed to block action on the all-important money bills. The likelihood of an interruption in the hot and heavy Senate civil rights debates arose on the heels of a forecast that the House would pass its own bill by March 15. Assistant House Republican Leader Leslie C. Arends (Ill.) has predicted that the House would beat down Southern opposition

and approve what he called "meaningful" civil rights legislation by mid-March. Arends' statement strengthened the strategy adopted by Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson (Tex.) of waiting for the House to act first on the touchy election-year issue. Senate GOP Leader Everett M. Dirksen (Ill.), however, has urged that the Senate beat the House to the punch by approving its own bill. In spite of his apparent wishes to sidetrack the civil rights action in the Senate until next month, Johnson has announced the Senate would continue the debate, which has bogged down the upper chamber for a week, today—despite the usual procedure of recessing after a Washington's birthday reading of the first president's Farewell Address. The House met at noon to hear Rep. Charles H. Brown (D-Mo.) read the address on the 228th anniversary of Washington's birth. Other congressional news: Taxes: It looked as if self-employed persons stood a 50-50 chance of getting a permanent break on their income taxes to help them save toward retirement. Prospects rose with the disclosure that the Treasury is modifying its strong stand against a House-passed bill which would permit the self-employed to defer payments on income taxes on certain amounts placed in retirement funds. Committees: Senate appropriations subcommittees met to consider vote-catching public works appropriations and the budget for the Commerce Department. A House appropriations group met appropriations and the budget for the State and Justice departments and the judiciary branch. And a House space subcommittee scheduled hearings on the appropriation for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Slick Pavement Causes Collision

Slick pavement was blamed for a two-car crash on Highway 20 about nine miles west of La Grande Monday morning. State Police said a car driven by Kenneth Dale Corbett, 18, of Pilot Rock, slid across the highway while rounding a curve. The car collided with an auto driven by Frank M. Mosier, 56, of Seattle. No one was injured in the accident. The collision occurred about 9 a.m. while the highway was covered with packed snow and ice.

Plane Bombs Castro House

HAVANA (UPI) — An unidentified small plane dropped four bombs near Premier Fidel Castro's beach villa at Cojimar Sunday and escaped. Castro apparently was not in his beach house at the time. At least three of the bombs were believed to have fallen in the sea. Four loud explosions were heard and a petty officer at the navy radio station in Cojimar Castle said it was believed the "bombs" were mortar shells of the type that explode on contact.

ODDS AGAINST CONVICT

CALIFORNIA SOLONS AGAINST CAPITAL PUNISHMENT BAN



SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — Members of the California Legislature indicated today that they will face heavy odds in his efforts to escape the gas chamber for the ninth time. The robber-rape was granted a reprieve by Gov. Edmund G. Brown early Friday, just 10 hours before Chessman's eighth scheduled execution at San Quentin prison. Brown said he granted the 60-day reprieve to allow the people of California, through the Legislature, to decide whether capital punishment should be abolished. The governor said his action was partly motivated by a State Department message concerning the possible effect of Chessman's execution on President Eisenhower's good will trip to South America. Both reasons touched off immediate controversies. The Legislature has defeated eight bills to ban the death penalty in the past 27 years—the latest in 1959. Poll Opposes Clemency A survey conducted by United Press International during the weekend showed that the Legislature again would vote down any attempt to abolish capital punishment. A majority of the members also was overwhelmingly against clemency for Chessman. The UPI survey, with 85 per cent of the state's 118 legislators contacted, showed: Abolishing capital punishment: Senate (40 members)—21 against, 9 for and 7 no stand. Assembly (78 members and two vacancies)—37 against, 20 for and 7 no stand. Brown's move also brought a threat of his impeachment and started an investigation into how the State Department became involved in the case. Chief Deputy State Attorney Richard Rogan disclosed he was involved in discussions that led to the State Department message. Rogan said he was "put in touch" with George V. Allen, director of the U.S. Information Agency, on Wednesday and expressed concern "as a citizen" over the effects of the execution on the President's reception in Latin America. The State Department telegram was delivered to the governor the following night. The threat of impeachment came from Bruce V. Regan, a conservative Republican from Pasadena. He said he was seriously considering introducing an

impeachment bill at a special legislative session starting Feb. 29. Brown said he would call a special session, concurrent with a scheduled March budget session to consider the capital punishment issue. Chessman plans no new legal maneuvers for the present, according to his attorney, George T. Davis. He said they would await the outcome of the legislative session. Deputy Attorney General Arlo E. Smith said he plans as soon as possible to ask the Los Angeles Superior Court, which convicted and condemned Chessman in 1948, to set a new execution date. California Attorney General Stanley Mosk predicted in Los Angeles Sunday night that Chessman would be executed at the end of his 60 day reprieve. "Some people are under the impression Gov. Brown has altered Chessman's sentence," Mosk said. "He has not done so, but has merely postponed the date of execution for 60 days." "In the meantime," he added, "international tensions will have eased and the people of California will have spoken on the issue of capital punishment through their legislature."

CONTROVERSIAL—As a result of the Caryl Chessman reprieve, Gov. Edmund G. Brown has become the focal point of heated national controversy on the question of capital punishment in California.