

WEATHER

Snow through today, Friday, heavy in places; highs 22-32; low 18-20.

LA GRANDE OBSERVER

TEMPERATURE

Wednesday maximum 26; night low 11. Sunset today 5:41 p.m.; sunrise Friday 6:24 a.m. Winds variable.

153rd Issue 64th Year

LA GRANDE, OREGON, THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1960

12 Pages

Five Cents



CHEERFUL VOLUNTEER

Orval Willcox, 33, of 3008 Walnut St., added pint of blood to Red Cross Bloodmobile stock during drawing held here Tuesday and Wednesday. Willcox started donating blood in Enterprise three years ago. Since then he has donated five pints which show on his current record card. He lost first card and doesn't know for sure exactly how many pints he has donated in all. (Observer Photo)

School Annexation Petition Voting Scheduled Tomorrow

By GRADY PANNELL, Observer Staff Writer

School reorganization, its pros and cons, has been debated for months and next will be voted on Friday by five school districts seeking to annex to La Grande District No. 1.

In turn, La Grande will vote Friday to accept the four third class districts and the Cove high school district.

Debate has waxed hot over reorganization the past several months and only within the last two weeks has taken on a general election pitch with SOS organizers working the affected Union County districts in a move to defeat the issue.

SOS is an organization known as Save Our Schools. Spokesmen for the group, organized some months ago in the western part of the state, appeared at Cove Sunday and strongly urged patrons of this district to defeat reorganization.

Issues Explained On the other hand, another group of dedicated and hard-working men, the Union County Reorganization Committee, has been visiting each district in the county and explaining to PTA groups, school boards and interested citizens exactly what reorganization is.

One thing stands out clearly in the issue. Public Law 619 is "school reorganization" and this law was enacted by the 1957 State Legislature. Each district affected by the law has until 1962 to reorganize.

However, with the "non-high law" going out of existence June 30 of this year, all third class districts (those that furnish only educational grades one through eight) are further affected and must "reorganize." Reorganizing

by such districts means becoming a part of a high school district. The affected third class districts voting to annex to La Grande, a high school district, Friday are: Island City District No. 10, Ladd Canyon No. 19, Fruitdale No. 27 and Alico No. 46.

Cove Petition Cove, a high school district (No. 15) and faced with either having to expand its present school facilities by bond issue or annex to a larger high school district, has petitioned to come into the La Grande system.

While these five districts are voting on La Grande annexation, La Grande District No. 1 patrons will be balloting whether or not to accept the petitioners.

Although the voting may seem to have more purpose in districts such as Island City, Ladd Canyon, Fruitdale and Alico — they have until June 30 to act — the situation at Cove is somewhat different.

There, one fairly strong faction is determined to defeat the annexation vote to La Grande; another powerful group is pressing for this annexation, and a smaller contingent is "against reorganization" in any shape or form.

Millage Factor The Cove group seeking to annex could have the edge in the matter, however. They point up several important factors. Such as increased millage by defeat, annexation and being forced then to expand their own school system.

They point out also that due to increased millage there is danger that large farming areas may go into the La Grande district one by one. Further there is the possibility that the assessed valuation of

the Cove district would be reduced to a point where the assessed valuation could be relatively low and where neither La Grande nor Union would want future Cove annexation. Costs at Cove would be an excess burden to property owners, and this would reduce the sales value of property and keep people from investing in real estate in the district.

Cove could very well vote itself into a state of near bankruptcy as a school community and cripple its potential for growth for years to come, spokesmen claim.

P.O. annexation forces point out that Cove, through annexation to La Grande, would retain school nucleus and at the same time obtain high-level advanced training for grades 10, 11 and 12.

Local Autonomy They state that Cove would also retain a fair measure of local autonomy through an advisory board. Educationwise, Cove would have the advantage of strangled and band instrument instruction, guidance, extra foreign languages, arts and crafts and many other services that are available to larger high school districts such as La Grande.

It is added that Cove would maintain grades one through nine at a consistently high level through constant and competent supervision.

Final say, however, is up to the voters. They ballot from 2 to 8 p.m. in the following places Friday: La Grande — Greenwood precinct at Greenwood school gymnasium; Central precinct at junior high buildings; Island City school; Cove school gymnasium; Ladd Canyon school; Fruitdale school and Alico school.

Elks Give Scholarship Awards

Three boys and three girls from Union county high schools have been selected to receive scholarships given by La Grande Elks lodge No. 433.

Winners were selected after interviews at the lodge hall. Ramon Westenskow of La Grande and Sharen Severns of Imbler won first place scholarships of \$100.

Other winners in the boy's division were David Slabaugh, La Grande, second place \$75 scholarship, and William Cockrell, Union, third place \$50. Stuart Croghan, E'gin, was chosen alternate in the division.

Girls division winners included Jean Wick, La Grande, second place \$75, and Ann McDonald, Imbler, third place \$50. Peggy Jacob, Union, was selected as alternate.

Patricia Fisk and Patricia Myers of La Grande also participated in the competition.

The first place winners in each of the two divisions will compete in district selections to be held Sunday in La Grande. They will vie for district honors along with top students from Ontario, Baker, Enterprise, Pendleton, Hepper and Hermiston. District winners receive \$50.

Winners of district competition are eligible to compete in state-wide competitions. State winners will try for the Elks National Foundation Most Valuable Student scholarships.

Rutherford Chairman Bob Rutherford of Eastern Oregon College was chairman of a three-man committee which interviewed the contestants for county scholarships. Other committee members were Dr. Carlos Easley and Lyle McMullen, both of EOC.

The scholarship recipients were chosen on the basis of academic record, extra-curricular activities, personality, leadership, perseverance, resourcefulness, and financial need.

The county scholarships may be used in any institution of higher education. The state scholarships are limited to use in Oregon colleges and universities.



SHARON SEVERNS Imbler Student



RAMON WESTENSKOW La Grande Student



DAVID SLABAUGH Second Place



WILLIAM COCKRELL Third Place



JEAN WICK Second Place



ANN McDONALD Third Place

Much Of U.S. Caught By Huge Snow Storm

Oregon Is Blanketed By Snow

PORTLAND (UPI) — Old man winter handed Oregon and southwest Washington a severe blow today as heavy snow snarled traffic and closed schools. At least two highway deaths were blamed on the weather.

Several inches of blowing, drifting snow piled up in Portland and Salem had seven inches on the ground. All public and parochial schools in both cities were closed as well as numerous schools in outlying areas.

La Grande awoke Thursday morning under a cover of ankle-deep snow with the air obscured by still falling flakes.

The state — highway commission said four inches had fallen by 8 a.m. in the city. Highway 30 east and west was slick with packed snow and chains were required.

Eastern points, including Baker, Ontario, Seneca, John Day and Basque, all recorded three inches up to 8 a.m. Pendleton had three and one half inches and Elgin received four.

The snow spread over most of the state, except for the southwest part. Tillamook and Astoria on the coast reported three to five inches. Bend had nine inches and Lapine six inches.

Northwest Oregon Coast range mountain passes had up to a foot of snow. Chains were advised on nearly all routes in northwest and eastern Oregon.

The weather man at the Portland airport said the east wind was blowing so strong it was almost impossible to get an accurate measurement of the snow here. But there were at least five inches on the roof of the Journal building in downtown Portland.

Worst in Years The Portland snow was one of the worst March storms in many years, although it was not quite as heavy as this year's January fall. Freezing rain was expected to follow the snow in this area.

Trains were reported running on time and Greyhound lines said buses had not been more than 30 minutes late.

Salem, the state capitol, had 8 to 12 inches of snow in some foothill areas. Plows were operating there and on the Portland-Salem freeway. Freezing rain began falling in Salem about 3 a.m. State police asked motorists to use chains on all highways in the snow area.

SCHOOLS CLOSE, TRAFFIC STOPPED BY DEEP DRIFTS

United Press International A record-breaking March storm turned its full fury on the East today and left the South and Midwest staggering under a triple punch of ice, snow and Arctic cold. The fast-moving storm pounded up the Atlantic Seaboard and Appalachians from the hard-hit southland, dumping heavy snow and piling up traffic-stopping drifts in the most populous sections of the nation.

Philadelphia closed all its public and parochial schools, traffic bogged down in Pittsburgh, and the Washington - Baltimore Expressway was blocked to north-bound traffic.

In Baltimore, where Friendship International Airport closed tight, it was the worst storm of the winter. At least 10 ships bound for Baltimore were forced to anchor in Chesapeake Bay or the lower harbor.

LaGuardia Airport in New York City closed down as wind-driven snow swept up the New Jersey Turnpike into the nation's largest city. Idlewild International Airport canceled 64 flights and reported long delays in others.

Schools closed by the hundreds throughout the East, South and Midwest. Dozens of airports shut down, buses cancelled runs or ran far behind schedule, and a one-car Chicago and Eastern Illinois train was mired in eight-foot snowdrifts for hours at Allerton, Ill.

The unseasonable late - winter storm and a new snowstorm that swept the Pacific Northwest claimed a mounting toll of lives. United Press International counted at least 21 deaths attributed to the weather — 4 each in Texas and Colorado, 2 each in Kansas, Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania, and 1 each in Missouri, Virginia, Iowa, Washington and Oregon.

Portions of Missouri, Illinois and Indiana were hit by the worst snow storm of the winter. Foot deep snows piled up road-blocking five foot drifts.

Mercury Nose Dives The Great Plains and eastern Rockies froze under temperatures that nose dived far below zero. The Mercury dropped to 27 degrees below zero at Cut Bank, Mont., 24 below at Kallisell, Mont., 22 below at Sydney, Neb., 20 below at Imperial, Neb., and 15 below at Casper, Wyo.

The longest, coldest winter snap in 77 years broke another Denver temperature record today when the thermometer dipped to 6 below zero.

At Kim, Colo., near the New Mexico border, soldiers from Ft. Carson, Colo., were continuing efforts to open roads with bulldozers. They were carrying emergency food and stock fodder in snow-track weasels to an estimated 100 ranch families and 4,000 range cattle stranded for two weeks by mountainous snow drifts.

The latest onslaught of winter was one of a dizzy series of rampaging storms that charged out of the southwest in the past month. The South, unused to the ravages of winter, was nearly paralyzed by ice and snow.

The storm, which blew in from the Gulf of Mexico, dumped up to a foot of snow in Virginia. Nearly all major highways in North Georgia were closed by the state patrol because of severe ice and snow.

In Atlanta, Ga., the city was paralyzed by the worst ice storm in 24 years. It struck during the morning rush hour and swiftly coated streets, roads and expressways with an inch or two of ice.

Flu Cases in Oregon Show 18 Per Cent Drop PORTLAND (UPI) — The number of reported flu cases in Oregon dropped 18 per cent last week to 1,780, the State Board of Health said today. The high for the year was 2,682 cases during the week of Feb. 6.

NEW MANAGER — The La Grande Safeway store has appointed Dale Nice, 27, of 1901 Spruce St., manager of the meat department. Nice has worked for Safeway the past three and a half years. (Observer Photo)

TO STUDY HERE WORCESTER, Mass. (UPI) — A granddaughter of Mohandas K. Gandhi will study at Clark University Graduate School. The University said Wednesday Sumitra Ramdas Gandhi of New Delhi will begin studies in international Soro-optomist Clubs fellowship.

MORSE FAVORITE SON

OREGON PRIMARY FILLED WITH DEMO PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFULS

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Backers of rival Democratic candidates conceded the front-runner position today to favorite son Sen. Wayne L. Morse in the Oregon Democratic presidential primary.

But unless he becomes a more serious candidate than he is now regarded, a Morse victory in the May 20 Oregon vote would minimize the importance of the prospective five-man contest.

Morse already had been entered in the Oregon primary by petition before Oregon Secretary of

State Howell Appling entered six others under discretionary power granted by state law.

It was immediately announced that Adlai Stevenson, 1952 and 1956 Democratic presidential nominee, and Sen. Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn.) — would be withdrawn.

Other Democrats Entered Appling also entered Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson and Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.), two undeclared candidates, along with Sens. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.).

Symington declined to comment except to say that he would not withdraw his name. Johnson also indicated he would leave his name on the ballot.

"My current responsibility is on the floor of the Senate," Johnson said. "I have no plans to act in any way on the action in Oregon."

Since neither Johnson nor Symington has any plans for entering other state primaries, the Oregon vote will provide the only pre-convention test of their vote-pulling power.

ler, who decided in December against challenging Nixon, would withdraw.

With the presidential primaries now virtually set, Kennedy-Humphrey contests will come in Wisconsin on April 5 and in West Virginia on May 10 as well as in the five-man Oregon race.

Kennedy faces Morse in Maryland on May 17 and is unopposed in New Hampshire next Tuesday, Indiana on May 3 and Nebraska on May 10. He has a stand-in, Gov. Michael V. DiSalle, running unopposed in Ohio on May 3.

Humphrey is pitted against Morse in the District of Columbia primary on May 3 and is unopposed in South Dakota on June 7.

City Will Remove Billboard Sign Here The city commission voted Wednesday to remove a billboard at S Avenue and Fir Street.

The board is in violation of the city zoning ordinance. Mr. and Mrs. Angel Metsopoulos, 2106 N. Fir St., requested early last month that the commission take the board out as it blocked part of their property.

Pope Names 7 Cardinals

VATICAN CITY (UPI) — Pope John XXIII named seven new cardinals today, including the first African Negro, Japanese and Filipino princes of the church. The nominations raised the sacred college to a record membership of 85.

The United States, which now has six cardinals, was not included in the new list.

Observers said the appointments reflected the growing importance of Africa and Asia, where emerging nationalism and the inroads of Communism — as well as the expansionism of Red China — are threatening democratic institutions.

The seven new cardinals will be installed at solemn consistories March 28 to 31, the third to be called by the present Pope since he ascended the throne of St. Peter a year ago last fall.

Names of Cardinals Those named today were Msgr. Peter Tatsuo Doi, archbishop of Tokyo; Msgr. Bernard Jan Alfrink, archbishop of Utrecht, Holland; Msgr. Rufino J. Santos, archbishop of Manila; Msgr. Lourian Rugamba, bishop of Rutabo, Tanganyika; Msgr. Luigi Traglia, titular archbishop of Cesarea di Palestina; Msgr. Antonio Bacci, secretary of briefs to the princes, a Vatican post; and Msgr. Joseph LeFebvre, archbishop of Bourges, France.

Annual Spring Style Show Set

Local people and stores will be featured at the annual Spring Style Show, Friday at 8 p.m. in the Saccawea ballroom with planned entertainment during intermission.

Council of Women's Clubs will sponsor the event, proceeds to be used to add to the number of hanging flower baskets for the main street of town.

Stores participating are Falks I. D., Genevieve's, Children Center, Montgomery Ward and Co., Top Shop, Dot Anson's Sport Shop, and Ann Johnson Ladies Ready To Wear.

FINDS FLU COSTLY MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (UPI) — A case of influenza cost hotel president Harry Mufson \$15,000 Wednesday night. Mufson picked up the checks for about 500 customers gathered to hear singer Pearl Bailey when Miss Bailey was too ill to go on.

COMMISSION SALARY CUT?

Youth Activities Group Urges City Assistance For Director

By DON ROBINSON, Observer Staff Writer

Former city manager Fred Young laid before the city commissioners Wednesday night a proposal that they cut their own salaries to provide funds for hiring a youth activities director.

Young appeared before the commission with three other persons: Loren Hughes, a director of La Grande Youth Activities Association, Mrs. Archer Antles, 1104 Second St., and Hollis DeGroff, 1612 1/2 Seventh St. The latter two represented the First Methodist church.

The foursome brought to the city's main governing body a proposition that had been coolly received by the city planning commission last week.

They asked that the city undertake financial support of a year-round youth activities program. And they asked that the budget provide for hiring a full-time youth activities director.

Lack of Funds Young said that in the past such proposals have always been blocked by lack of city money. He then explained how money could be found in the budget without increasing taxes.

In 1958, he said, the city passed a resolution establishing the rate of pay for city employees. The wage scales were based on those

of other cities of comparable size. However, one item received no consideration and is "definitely out of line" — the pay received by city commissioners.

Young said city commissioners here receive a salary of \$780 per year. The average pay of councilmen or commissioners in other Oregon cities (except La Grande), from St. Helens with a population of 6,000 to Eugene with a population of nearly 50,000, is only \$37 per year.

In half of those cities councilmen receive no pay. If La Grande commissioners dropped their own salaries to nothing, the city would save \$3,900 a year, Young stated. If pay were lowered to only \$10 a month, the saving would amount to \$3,300 a year.

Half of Salary This, said Young, would cover at least half of a youth activities director's salary. "And there is every reason to believe the other half could be raised."

Loren Hughes told commissioners that during recent years the YA group has been faced with a greater demand for services and a diminishing supply of money.

The association this year received \$1,200 from the city and about \$2,300 from the United Fund. Hughes felt a year-round

program was needed. Hughes noted that La Grande's case is unusual in that youth work is supported by voluntary funds. In most cities surrounding La Grande, youth programs are city-sponsored, he said.

Mrs. Archer Antles said that the First Methodist Christian social relations committee of which she is chairman supported three proposals relating to youth:

1) Obtaining a juvenile officer, 2) advocating a change in the new Oregon juvenile law, and 3) establishing a youth employment program.

Reaction of the commission to the presentation was varied. Commissioner Merle Becket said youth activity work is worthwhile. However, he advised proponents of a city-sponsored program to work out a year's program in detail before making a request for financial support.

Commissioner Arlo Noyes was reluctant to see the commission take action unless "the expression of a majority of the people in the community" is known.

He suggested that the question of a city-supported youth program be placed on a city ballot. Commissioner H. E. Waddell, acting president in the absence of Gordon Clarke, said the commission would take the proposals under consideration.