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We are closing out our entire stock of wall paper at a great reduction in price, to make room for the largest stock ever put in La Grande. We handle everything in the line of Paints, Oils, Glass, etc. We do all kinds of painting, paper hanging and decorating. Call and see us.

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Millinery and caps always in stock

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We are ready to buy all kinds of hay and grain,
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One Hundred Years of Rapid Progress

In 1805 the world had not a single steamship on the ocean, a single mile of railway on land, a single span of telegraph upon the continents or a single foot of cable beneath the ocean. In this blessed year of 1905 it has 18,000 steam vessels, 500,000 miles of railway and more than 1,000,000 miles of land telegraph, while the very continents are bound together in instantaneous communication by more than 200,000 miles of ocean cables and the number of telephone messages sent aggregates 6,000,000,000 annually, one-half of them being in the United States. That great region called the "Corn belt" was as yet unsettled and practically unknown in 1805. A little of Ohio, less of Indiana and nothing of Illinois was then known to the population which as yet was clinging to the Atlantic coast afraid of the terrors supposed to lurk in the western wilderness. But a few white men had crossed the Mississippi and all that vast region stretching to the western ocean was a terra incognita. At present it filled with great and populous states, enjoying wealth, luxuries and conveniences of all kinds which were beyond the reach of kings one hundred years ago. Every prosperous farmer of the west sleeps in a bed which King George could not have afforded in 1805 and when he comes east to visit his relatives he rides in a palace car compared to which the best conveyances of royalty seem crude and barbarous. The richest men of England France in those days were poor in all the conveniences of life compared to hundreds of thousands scattered over the thousands of miles of territory which a hundred years ago was a howling wilderness. Pessimists, while admitting the marvelous development along material lines, insist that there has been no moral improvement, that people are more wicked, less honest, far more corrupt and grasping than in the olden days. This is a great mistake. There has been as wondrous an advance in genuine intellectual civilization as in material things. Man has shed many of his worst superstitions. He no longer kills hundreds of thousands of innocent women and girls for committing the impossible crime of witchcraft. Torture, as a means of wringing confessions, is prohibited by the laws of every civilized government. "No cruel or unusual punishment shall be inflicted," says the constitution of the United States. Freedom of the press, freedom of speech, religious liberty, things wholly unknown one hundred years ago across the water, are now the common possession of nearly all European peoples. There is not a king on the American continent, from the St. Lawrence to the uttermost reach of Terra Del Fuego, while in 1805 every foot of land south of the gulf of Mexico was governed by European despots. Individual men, of course, remain much the same in all ages. They have the same passions and appetites and these lead to greed, to dishonesty in all its forms, to licentiousness and to the graver crimes. Civilization itself breeds its own peculiar vices and diseases and our very progress and prosperity engender vicious elements, just as the richest soils are most prolific in weeds and noxious insects. On the whole, however, there has been great progress all along the line and the millions of happy farmers, now resting after the most perfect and fruitful of all agricultural seasons, may look back with complacency upon what has been done in this country in the space covered by a single lifetime.

President Issues Annual Proclamation

The President issued his proclamation naming Thursday, November 30, as a day for Thanksgiving. The proclamation follows:

When, nearly three centuries ago the first settlers came to the country which has now become this great Republic, they faced not only hardship and privation but terrible risks to their lives. In those grim years the custom grew of setting apart one day in each year for a special service of thanksgiving to the Almighty for preserving the people through the changing seasons. The custom has now become national and hallowed by immemorial usage.

We live in easier and more plentiful times than our forefathers, the men who with rugged strength faced the rugged days, and yet the dangers to national life are quite as great now as at any previous time in our history. It is eminently fitting that once a year our people should set apart a day for praise and thanksgiving to the giver of good, and, at the same time that they express their thankfulness for the abundant mercies received, should manfully acknowledge their shortcomings and pledge themselves solemnly and in good faith to strive to overcome them. During the past year we have been blessed with bountiful crops. Our business prosperity has been great. No

other people has ever stood on as high a level of material wellbeing as ours now stands. We are not threatened by foes from without. The foes from whom we should pray to be delivered are our passions, appetites and follies; and against these there is always need that we should warn.

Therefore, I now set apart Thursday, the 30th day of this November, as a day of thanks for the past and of prayer for the future, and on that day I ask that throughout the people gather in their homes and places of worship and, in rendering thanks unto the most high for the manifold blessings of the past year, consecrate themselves to a life of cleanliness, honor and wisdom, so that this nation may do its allotted work on earth in a manner worthy of those who founded it and of those who preserved it.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this second day of November in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Five and of the Independence of the United States the One Hundred and Thirtieth.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.
By the President.
ELIHU ROOT, Secretary of State.

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