

La Grande Evening Observer

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EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS

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VOTE NO.

Until schemers realize that only the most meritorious measures have any chance whatever of receiving the support of the people it will be a safe rule to vote against any and every measure that you are not thoroughly convinced should become a law. At the coming June election there are a number of proposed measures that are purely local in their nature—to illustrate, the division of Wasco county. As a matter of fact, there should not be a single vote cast for that subdivision by a single county outside of the county directly interested. There are other similar measures. The initiative can be abused and is being abused now, but a few crushing defeats by the people will serve notice that just because a proposed bill gets on the ballot that it is not necessarily worthy of suffrage. If you do not know what you are voting for, vote "No." This is a liberty that few states in any republic enjoy. That of introducing and voting upon laws direct. This is suffrage in its highest sense, but it must be remembered that this implies a higher duty of citizenship. Heretofore this responsibility was delegated to the individual members of the legislature; now the voters are the legislature, with full power to introduce and make and unmake laws. Powers that were hardly thought possible 50 years ago. A dangerous power, in fact, unless the great majority of the voters meet the new condition with a boldness and earnestness that such powers imply. It is just possible that our people will have to pass a few notoriously vicious laws before they realize the responsibility of their ballot. The people of Oregon have as yet made no blunders, no more so than have our previous legislatures. It will require a little time for us all to measure up to our duties, but we will. There is a desire in some quarters to throw discredit upon the initiative and referendum law; there is the same desire to repeal the primary law, but it is largely from the would-be political bosses who were completely dethroned by the new change.

The alfalfa crop is extending its area away to the north. In North Dakota, up near to the Canadian boundary, many are beginning to sow it and with encouraging success. The experience with it during the past two or three seasons where it has been tried, is of the most encouraging character. Some farmers claim they have pastured it in the autumn the first season, and that the plants, notwithstanding, have wintered well. It would seem to be true of alfalfa that soils have a high adaptation for it, as a rule, west of the Mississippi and that such adaptation, viewed from the standpoint of soils, increases continually toward the west until the crest of the mountains is reached. The department of agriculture will have to reconstruct the maps showing the alfalfa belt.

The righteous indignation of the Ministerial association of Baker City, may have caused them to over-reach the line of discretion, when they issued their "pink circular," which has since the publication become famous all over the state. Nevertheless, the very thing they have been trying to bring about for many months is soon

to be accomplished. Chief of Police Jackson has received orders from Mayor Johns to close all gambling games on March 1.

Mr. Bryan for many months has been trying to ride into power on President Roosevelt's popularity. Mr. Roosevelt has not made an utterance, for 10! these many moons, but what Mr. Bryan would immediately rush to the telegraph office and tell the world, "Them's my sentiments, too," and add a postscript: "President Roosevelt is not playing fair, he is stealing all my thunder."

A cleaner and prettier La Grande is the motto of the Neighborhood club for 1908. A move that is worthy of the support of all.

MORGAN FOR PRESIDENT

New York, Feb. 7.—J. P. Morgan has been nominated for the presidency of the United States by Carroll Brewster, a Pennsylvania lawyer of some prominence. Brewster believes that Morgan should be the head of a new party. He argues that Morgan would have the confidence of the financial element and conservative class and as a financial expert could restore good times. Otherwise Brewster fears that the country may be robbed of its constitutional safeguards.

IS LOSING HER MIND

CARLOS' ASSASSINATION TOO MUCH FOR CZARINA.

For Months She Has Been Worrying and Living in Constant Fear That the Czar Would Meet With a Similar Fate—She is a Nervous Wreck—Physicians Advise the Czar to Take Her Out of the Country.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 7.—It is feared that the czarina may lose her reason as a result of the shock occasioned by the news of the assassination of King Carlos and the crown prince. For months she has been worrying, living in fear that the czar will be assassinated and these fears are greatly increased since Carlos and his son died. She is a nervous wreck and it is feared her life will be short unless the strain is removed. Physicians hold that the czar must take her away from Russia to undergo treatment for her nervous disease.

CRIMINAL ACTION

May Be Instituted Against the U. P. and the S. P.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 7.—It is hinted that criminal action may be taken against the S. P. and Union Pacific, which are accused of illegally holding valuable lands in Oregon. The department of justice will take steps to announce the intended scope of the prosecution shortly.

Painful Accident.

Yesterday afternoon Will Oliver, after making his first trip downtown for 12 weeks, slipped and fell as he was entering his home and rebroke his thigh bone. It will be remembered that Mr. Oliver fell from a telephone pole, which caused the original break. This last accident will cause confinement to his home for another period of several weeks.

After Many Years.

Samuel Steel, now located in Spokane, but formerly a resident of Union county, is again shaking hands with old-time friends in La Grande after having been absent more than 25 years. Mr. Steel came here to remove the remains of his father who died here a number of years ago and was buried on the Sterling farm near Island City. The body will be reinterred in the Peach cemetery.

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THERE IS ROOM FOR ALL

There is room for all and to spare in Union county. Every day large holdings are being subdivided and thereby opportunity is given those who wish to purchase choice fruit tracts or who desire to farm on a small scale. Nowhere in the state can so many desirable selections be made, or where there is such an opportunity for individual selection.

If you are looking for a fruit tract, hay ranch, a wheat farm, a dairy ranch or poultry farm or even a cattle ranch, come to Union county. You will find exactly what you have been looking for and at a price you can afford to pay. The following illustration will explain better than words just the kind of prosperity that is in store for you if you cast your lot with the citizens of Union county.



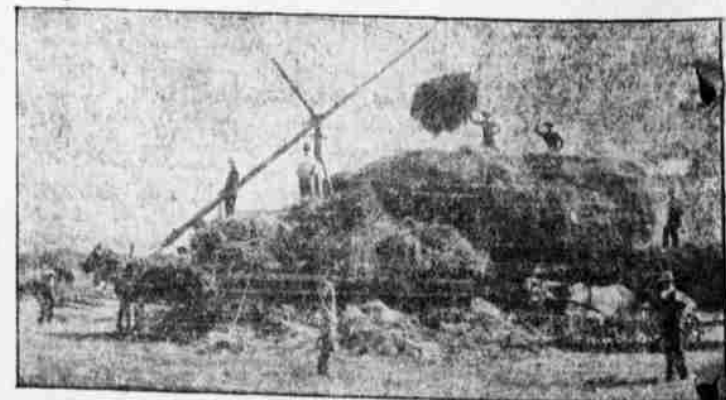
Heading Grain in the Grande Ronde.



Apple Orchards of the Grande Ronde.



LOOKING OVER PART OF LA GRANDE'S RESIDENCE DISTRICT.



Haying in the Grande Ronde.