

La Grande Evening Observer

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CURREY BROTHERS, EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS

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As we become better accustomed with the use of the initiative law we believe that very few laws will be directly referred to the people. There is no question that at the present time the proper use of this law is being abused as evidenced by the submission of 15 or 20 laws or propositions to be voted upon at the coming election. The idea of this law was to provide an avenue whereby the people could refer laws direct, in those cases wherein the legislature refused to enact meritorious relief measures. With this view, which was the foundation that caused public sentiment to demand its passage, the initiative and referendum law gave such relief, but it was never intended to have the people pass upon such local questions as to whether or not Wasco county should be divided, and half a dozen other similar purely local matters. But if we are not mistaken the voters will set their stamp of disapproval on such measures by such immense majorities that in the future our ballots will not be thus burdened. The legislature, generally speaking, is the place where our laws should be made, and the initiative should only be the last court of resort.

We do not understand that an effort is to be made at the mass meeting to be held Friday night to see if it is possible to keep the La Grande Commercial club from being closed up, to meet the financial difficulties, that a subscription paper is to be circulated or the hat is to be passed. If the Observer understands it the object of the meeting is to have the business men and property owners assemble to devise some means of financing the proposition whereby if the proper support is given the club through an increased membership, that it cannot only pay the running expenses, but eventually wipe out the indebtedness. Let there be a sufficient number in attendance to make a showing that the city does not desire the club to pass out of existence.

There is not much danger in the voters of Union county casting a majority in favor of free passes. The vote on the measure to prohibit free passes was snowed under by a majority of 869.

Let us rally round the flag, boys. Let us rally around the old Commercial club Friday night and keep her going.

Union county gave a majority of three in favor of equal suffrage two years ago.

EXPOSITION BEING PUSHED.

Buildings Going Up and Contracts Being Granted—Exhibits Arranged for. Seattle, Feb. 27.—(Special correspondence.)—Nearly a thousand persons visit the site of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition every fine day to inspect the work which is rapidly progressing on the grounds and buildings.

The first of the big exhibit palaces that will be completed will be the Manufacturers' building, which has reached the stage where the roof will be placed into position next week. Already much of the ornamental staff work for this building has been finished and is being placed in position.

The Agricultural building, a twin structure to the Manufacturers' build-

ing, is not far behind her sister in progress, as its walls are now being erected.

The emergency hospital will have its last finishing touches applied within the next two weeks, and then a complete hospital corps will be installed in the buildings to take care of any one hurt or taken sick on the grounds.

LADD CANYON

Ladd Canyon, Ore., Feb. 26.—(Special.)—Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Sherwood and daughter, Miss Jennie Sherwood, visited Sunday at the home of Fred Braden.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Gates, Mrs. Lavina Gates, Miss Alverta Gates and William Winburn of La Grande, were guests at the home of William Banton Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. John McCauley have received the sad news of the death of their daughter, Mrs. John Crossen, who resided at Oakland, Cal. Mrs. Crossen was well known in Ladd Canyon, having once lived here, and many were sorry to hear of her death. She leaves to mourn her loss a husband and two children, Vernon and Bryan Crossen.

Mrs. Lucy Graham visited Sunday with Mrs. Frank Counsell.

Our school begins Monday, February 24, with Miss Dora Murdock, of Monmouth, as teacher, after one month vacation.

CIRCUIT COURT

In all there were 40 witnesses placed on the stand in the case of Russell vs. the O. R. & N. company. Both sides finished at noon. The afternoon has been occupied in the arguments of counsel, which is now in progress as we go to press. It is not expected that the case will go to the jury much before 6 o'clock this evening.

The court room has been crowded all day and has excited unusual interest from the start.

McDonald Case Postponed.

It was expected that the case of the State vs. P. A. McDonald, administrator of the estate of John Morrison, would follow the case now occupying the attention of the court, but it was ascertained today that it would be impossible to go to trial on this case from the fact that several of the important witnesses could not be secured. The state is trying to have the estate of Morrison escheated, or revert back to the state on the ground that the alleged heirs are not legally heirs.

A number of subpoenas were issued today in the Bartlett case, which is set for next Monday. Witnesses subpoenaed today are J. N. Klein, J. T. Williamson, S. A. Gardiner and J. J. Carr.

Communication.

The question as to the future of the Commercial club is one of interest not alone to the members, but to every loyal citizen of La Grande. No man with any real interest in our home town wishes to see the plant cease to serve the city. If the institution can be made more effective for good, more people will share in its maintenance. Allow a few humble suggestions from one who is not a member, but should love to help support a club house that would stand as an indication that we are awake to our brothers' interests as well as our own. Why not organize the work along Y. M. C. A. lines? Eliminate the cards and the pool and billiard tables. Open the reading room to all men, and especially welcome the stranger. Put in games, etc., that are not under suspicion even among "old-fashioned" Christians. Refit and remodel the bath rooms, making them more inviting. Then equip the lower floor as a good gymnasium and whenever the younger membership justifies, secure a trainer. Discard the dances and any other features that are offensive to many and carry on the work in such a way that every minister in town will rejoice to endorse the institution. Such arrangement will, I am sure, bring many new friends to the help of maintaining the club house.

Respectfully,

O. H. KING.

Grant Lincoln expects to go to Portland the last of the week.

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For Representative. I hereby announce myself a candidate for the nomination on the republican ticket for state representative, from Union county, at the primary election to be held on April 17. If nominated and elected I will use my best endeavors to promote the best results for Union county and eastern Oregon, and do it impartially. My motto is: "No friends to reward, but equal justice to all." S. F. RICHARDSON.

Eggs and Flour Prices Drop. Eggs and flour have suddenly dropped in price on the Walla Walla market. Flour has been strong, ranging as high as \$5.60 a barrel a few days ago. A drop of 20 cents a barrel has been announced. Eggs are plentiful and 25 cents is the price quoted by grocers. A few weeks ago the price was 45 cents and the supply was far short of the demand.

Political Information. County registration books open until April 7. Primary election April 17. Registration books reopened April 21; closed on May 15. General state election June 1. Registration books reopened September 20; close October 20. Presidential election November 3. City Election. City registration books close February 22. Candidates must file their petitions not later than February 22. City election March 9.

Trees and Shrubs. Trees, shrubs and roses—The Union Nurseries, Union, Ore., have a large stock of apple, cherry, pear and shade trees, they are selling at reasonable prices. Send for their price list. 2-6tt

Candidate for Circuit Judge. I take this method of announcing myself as a candidate for the nomination for the office of circuit judge of this district at the democratic primaries to be held on April 17, 1908. My motto: No enemies to punish; no friend to reward; equal justice to all. February 18, 1908. T. H. CRAWFORD. For Circuit Judge. I hereby announce myself a candidate for nomination on the democratic ticket for the office of circuit judge of the Tenth Judicial district, comprising Union and Walla counties, at the primary election to be held on April 17, 1908. If nominated and elected I will use my best endeavors to administer the business of the circuit court in both counties of the district impartially, speedily and economically. D. W. SHEAHAN.

For County Recorder. I take this means of announcing that I am a candidate for the republican nomination for the office of Recorder of Union county, at the primary election. D. H. PROCTOR. For Assessor. I hereby announce to the republican voters of Union county, that I am a candidate at the primary election for the republican nomination for assessor of Union county. R. H. HUG. To Delinquents. Notice is hereby given to all water patrons of the city of La Grande who may be in arrears at the present time, that unless the same is paid by March 1, 1908, the water will be cut off. WATER COMMITTEE.

"Och Louie"

MEET ME IN LA GRANDE MARKET DAY

EVERYBODY IS GOING TO BE THERE from far and near. All the merchants in town are going to give some of the BIGGEST BARGAINS EVER HEARD OF or offered in the state of Oregon. FARMERS BRING IN YOUR HORSES. No commission charged for selling them at auction.

AND DON'T FORGET THE DAY AND DATE RAIN OR SHINE

29 Sat. Feb. 29 MARKET DAY