

La Grande Evening Observer

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CURREY BROTHERS,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS

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Our Creator has blessed abundantly Grande Ronde valley by supplying all that could be desired in the way of natural resources. We have the soil, the products of which are sought after in the markets not only in our own county, but across the seas. Climatic conditions ideal—neither excessively hot during the growing season, nor very cold during the winter months. On our mountains fuel for the ages yet to come is provided, also ranges for our stock, but at last we are just beginning to realize the true value of our surrounding mountains. These have always been store houses of wealth, but in fact, we are just beginning to think of utilizing their resources. Aside from the fuel and grass for stock, their greatest value lies in their storage capacity of our winter snows. We, today, are running practically every industry in the valley requiring power from energy produced by the melting of our snows. Doubtless few of us realize to what extent this will be increased, as the demands for power increase. The water powers are to the Pacific coast what the coal fields have been to the Atlantic coast, but that advantage is altogether with us. Electricity today is turning wheels alongside of many coal beds. Nothing can compete with water power when once installed. Time was when the water powers formed the basis of cities. Not so now, as the power from these sites can be conducted where demanded. With all the thousands of horse power in our home mountains yet undeveloped, another resource after these waters are utilized in producing power, is just becoming recognized, and that is the water itself for irrigation. The water in reality will be the factor that makes possible the utilization of the now dormant power possibilities. We all know that Grande Ronde valley will be the home of trolley lines, but we do not expect this realization in the fullest, to be brought about until our population increases, and we do not expect our population to double or treble until conditions are such that families can be comfortably supported on 20 and 40-acre tracts, and we all know that this will never be until our lands become capable of irrigation.

Nature has done its part in providing the natural resources. We must do the balance, and are doing it. Those who leave old Grande Ronde during 1908 would hardly recognize the old landmarks upon their return five years hence. Keep your photograph, your camera users, for comparison. They will be interesting a few years hence. We are doing great things these days, and in fact, are just beginning to move.

What do you think of the proposed new city charter? It is the duty of every voter to read it over carefully before voting for or against it. The city council has spent a great deal of time in compiling it. A number of other charters have been carefully examined and those sections thought to be the best were adopted. During the past decade there has been quite a change in municipal charter building, especially along the line of franchise granting, providing for increased taxation or revenues. It was the intention to eliminate as many as possible, the objectionable features of the last charter, that was defeated at the polls, and it is not expected that any great opposition to the present instrument will be encountered.

The Weather.

Fair tonight with light frost; fair Wednesday.

ORGANIZER IS COMING

Mrs. Helen D. Harford, state organizer of the W. C. T. U. in Oregon, will be in La Grande September 26 and 27. On Saturday afternoon she will conduct a parlor meeting at the home of Mrs. C. R. Thornton. This will not be the only time which the La Grande public will be given an opportunity to hear the interesting and talented speaker for she will be heard three times on Sunday. In the morning she will speak to the children of the M. E. Sunday school, and at 11 o'clock at the Baptist church. Then in the evening again she will conduct a meeting at the M. E. church. The subjects will be announced later.

BRIGGS LET GO BY COURT

Frank Briggs of Starkey, is again freed from criminal offense by a decision of the circuit court handed down this forenoon after the arguments in the case following the trial of yesterday, had been presented. The court released the defendant from further connection in the charge of contempt brought against Briggs by W. T. Hill, also of Starkey. It was brought out in the testimony that the defendant had been taking measurements of the creek in dispute, which had previously been protected by injunction proceedings. Mr. Hill brought charges of contempt of court, apparently without first investigating the nature of Mr. Briggs' offense. At any rate, there was no question but what the water was allowed to remain in the creek, as Mr. Briggs was merely taking measurements and not using it, which would have been in violation of the injunction. Mr. Briggs has gone home feeling he will no longer be prosecuted for contempt of court, this being his second time before that august personage in a few months, each time at the instigation of Mr. Hill. The cost of the trial was assessed to Mr. Hill.

LADY DEFEND HER RIGHTS

A case was up in the justice court of North Powder yesterday, which reads like a blood and thunder "Diamond Dick" novel. Attorney Charles Cochran and District Attorney Ivanhoe were the lawyers in the case, and when the testimony was presented, the prizefighting instinct in humanity began to crop out in high excitement. The story of the fight which Mrs. W. T. Davis and her husband indulged in at their ranch home seven miles from North Powder, was brought out from two sources and for the most part coincide. Mrs. Davis tells the prettiest story to the effect that some time ago, August 17, to be explicit, a batch of dough went wrong because Davis had lighted the fire in the cook stove without removing the batter set to rise in the cozy oven the night before. A few hours later he found considerable flour in the shape of dough in the swill barrel. This flagrant misappropriation of flour did not appeal to him. Long strings of oaths were hurled at her by her irate husband. He grew so incensed that he picked up a chair and was about to administer a severe beating to his extravagant wife. She frustrated any such intentions by personally removing said chair from the grasp of said husband. In the melee she landed a nifty uppercut on the jaw, he retaliating with a jab to the left eye brow that started blood. She sent three punches with telling effect, registering on the probovis. He fled in dismay, but was followed by the wife, now equipped with an arsenal from the gun rack. Pointing the weapon point-blank, she threatened to blow his heart out into

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the woodshed, but Mr. Davis saw rescue behind a 3-year-old boy. Holding the little lad in front of his moving picture like—he found protection from the lead-pest and soon overpowered the woman behind the gun, though another child narrowly escaped death by the accidental discharge of the gun. Five days of peace reigned in the family after this. Then Davis went east. He has returned, and is now bound over to the grand jury on a \$2500 bond.

More and Later Trouble.

Today Mr. Davis was in the city trying to relinquish his claim. Mrs. Davis has possession and he may find some difficulty in disposing of the property as long as his "frau" chooses to stay. If the relinquishment proceedings are instituted, additional trouble in the family may break out.



P. A. Davey, Who is Missing.

NO FLAT MONEY.

Nothing But Cash or Money Orders Recognized at Land Office.

Receiver A. A. Roberts states that from and after this date nothing but cash or money orders will be received at the United States land office at La Grande in payment for public domain. Heretofore the custom has been to receive checks, but in conformance with the regulation of the department this must cease, and all entries unless accompanied by the actual money or money orders, will be rejected. Receiver Roberts desires that the press of the district give this matter all possible prominence in order that the matter may be fully understood.

Quarterly Meeting.

This evening, the first quarterly meeting of the La Grande Methodist church will be held. District Superintendent J. D. Gillilan will be present and preside. Officers and members are cordially invited and requested to be present.

WILL RESUME SINKING.

E. W. Oliver Well Now Down 420 Feet—Casing Arrived.

After waiting three weeks for the arrival of casing for the E. W. Oliver well on the sandridge, which is now down 420 feet, work will be resumed tomorrow, the casing having arrived this afternoon. How much deeper the well is to go is problematical. Mr. Oliver is desirous of securing a well that will flow from 50 to 75 gallons of water per minute, that will raise to within 20 feet of the surface.

Quail shooting is now "rife" in southern Oregon.

THE ISSUE AND PARTY RECORD.

Will the People Trust Experimentalists and Theorists? (From Sherman's Speech of Acceptance.)

The overshadowing issue of the campaign really is: Shall the administration of President Roosevelt be approved, shall a party of demonstrated capacity in administrative affairs be continued in power, shall the reins of government be placed in experienced hands, or do the people prefer to trust their destinies to an aggregation of experimental malcontents and theorists, whose only claim to a history is a party name they pilfered?

With a record of four decades of wise legislation; two score years of faithful administration; offering its fulfilled pledges as a guaranty of its promises for the future, the Republican party appeals to the people and, with full confidence in their wisdom and patriotism, awaits the rendition of the November verdict.

DENIES THAT BRYAN "COULD DO NO HARM."

Congressman Burke Says Office of President Is Infinitely More Powerful Than Congress.

Congressman James Francis Burke, of Pittsburg, in an address on "The Powers of the President," says:

"The American people can make no greater mistake than to elect Mr. Bryan on the assumption that he can do no harm in the face of an adverse Senate. As between the executive and legislative departments of the government, the former has infinitely greater power to rule and ruin than the latter."

"Mr. Taft and Mr. Bryan are wholly different types of men. Each possesses a strong individual character, which would certainly assert itself in the White House. What either of these men would do during a four years' term in the White House is causing as much anxiety among thoughtful Americans as the mere matter of election alone.

"As a discriber of moneys the President is without a rival in the world. Through the agencies under his control he will this year disburse a billion dollars, showing the great things we are doing in addition to the unparalleled list of the world's achievements.

"In view of the fact that during the fifteen years of Bryan leadership the States controlled by his party have decreased from 23 to 12, the number of Senators from 48 to 31, the number of Representatives in Congress from 220 to 164, and in that time the Democratic party was in control of the ground, whereas it is now, as a consequence of his teachings, a hopelessly heterogeneous mass of Populistic elements, the American people can see little prospects of a constructive policy if Mr. Bryan should succeed."

LABOR WORLD FOR TAFT.

Characterizes Him as True Friend of the Workingman.

(From the Concord (N. H.) Monitor.) The Labor World comes out strongly in its advocacy of Mr. Taft. It characterizes him a true friend of labor and declares that the unfair attacks of Mr. Gompers will have little or no effect in alienating from him the labor world. It says: "That Secretary Taft is a true friend of labor is certain, and all the untrue, ungenerous, vicious attacks that President Gompers or any one else may make on him cannot prevent him from continuing to be the friend of the wage worker. Organized labor cannot afford to have itself split up into factions on this political issue. That President Gompers is wrong in forcing this most ominous fight is certain, and intelligent wage workers will certainly come to this conclusion."

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