

La Grande Evening Observer

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CURREY BROTHERS,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

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A NATIONAL AWAKENING.

"In the last 10 years," says the Year Book of the Department of Agriculture, for 1907, "forestry has advanced in this country from an almost unknown science to a useful growing profession. In that time the number of technically trained foresters has increased from less than a dozen to over 400. Ten years ago there was not a single forest school in the country; now there are several professional forest schools which rank with those of Europe, and a score more with courses in elementary forestry whose usefulness is steadily growing. Forest lands under management have grown from one or two tracts to many, aggregating 7,503,000 acres, scattered through 39 states. The National forests have increased from 39,000,000 acres, practically unused and unprotected, to 165,000,000 acres, used, guarded and improved both in productiveness and accessibility. The number of states which have state forests has increased from 1 to 10; and of those which employ trained foresters from none to 11. The membership of forest associations has increased from 3600 to 15,500. Ten years ago, except for a few of the foremost botanists, European foresters knew more about American forests than did the people of this country. In Europe they were then using preservatives to prolong the service of beech ties, and so adding from 20 to 40 years to their life. Here, on the other hand, scarcely a treated tie had been laid, though there are now 50 treating plants, 27 of which treat ties exclusively, and an engineer who recently returned from Europe reports that both in size and mechanical perfection the treating equipment of this country is ahead of any to be found abroad.

And yet American forestry has only safely passed the experimental stage and got ready to do something. Action, immediate and vigorous, must be taken if the inevitable famine of wood supplies is to be lessened. We are now using as much wood in a single year as grows in three, with only 50 years' supply of virgin growth in sight. Only the application of forest knowledge with wisdom, method and energy in the next 10 years can prevent the starving of national industries for lack of wood."

A stone or brick depot for La Grande is one of the assured things for the future. Superintendent Buckley stated this morning that the increased railroad business, both in freight and the passenger traffic would necessitate greater facilities here than at present, and when the time came for the change the people of La Grande could rest assured that the new building would be in keeping with the spirit of progression that the O. R. & N. had been keeping up with the past five years, during which time it had practically built a new road by increasing their motive power, heavier steel rails and new roadbed.

The day of clean fairs is at hand in this state. Dr. Brouger visited the Portland Livestock show and races, and was so well satisfied with the exhibits and racing—no liquor being sold on the grounds and no pool selling and no betting in evidence, that he sent in his application for a season ticket for next year. The report of the receipts of the state fair is something like \$38,000, and no liquors or gambling was permitted. Oregon is behind very few states in morals and we are getting better each year.

The Pendleton grand jury has set a pace for the other counties to follow, where bootlegging is carried on. All of the counties will wake up after a while, and the local option law will not be considered a joke. A justice of the peace in the Willamette valley a few days ago fined a bootlegger \$500, and sentenced him to jail for 30 days. Union county is not so slow. We have two men now in the county jail serving 125 days each. Bootlegging will soon be as popular as horsestealing in this state.

Milton is showing her fruit to advantage by sending nearly two carloads to the Pendleton fair. It might pay our fruitgrowers to visit the Pendleton fair and get a few pointers. The advertising Milton will get in free newspaper space alone from her efforts at displaying her wares, are incalculable, and is only one of the ways of doubling the value of her lands.

It is reported that petitions are being circulated in Lincoln county, asking for the recall of County Commissioner Fogarty. The basis of the movement is said to be over a wagon road contract. We believe if this is perfected, it will be the first attempt to carry out the provision of the new recall law.

Many of our people are just beginning to realize the advantages that will naturally accrue to La Grande by the completion of the railroad into Wallowa county. It means much to both counties.

Six weeks of this kind of weather and our beet crop will be all under cover, and it will be out of the ordinary if we do not have the weather. The fall weather of old Grande Ronde valley is unexcelled in any land.

The business men of La Grande could do a good stunt by attending the Wallowa county fair one day. There is a suggestion made along these lines that may receive recognition at the hands of the Commercial club.

The chances are before the campaign is over, that Speaker Cannon will take off his hat to Governor Hanly.

Superintendent J. M. Buckley sees visions of increased trade for his company upon the completion of the railroad into Wallowa county.

This is certainly fair weather for the fair.

Boss Meat Market.

Remember, that when you order next Sunday roast that the Boss meat market is again open and doing business and that the old-time Boss butcher, L. Stilwell, is in charge. Phone Main 15. Oct 5. L. STILWELL, The Boss Butcher.

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Now is the time to think about your winter supply

We have the supply and the price and quality is right

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Is now due. We have put in a fine line of "V. G." Flooring and Stepping, and Squares surfaced on four sides; native finish and dimension. Cedar Shingles of the first quality, same price as second grade. We are closing out our Doors and Sash at Portland wholesale price. You get 2-8x6-8 Door for \$1.25; other kinds in proportion.

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3655

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NOTICE: Rights reserved to refuse all objectionable persons admission to this Rink.

JACK D. O'BRIEN - - - Manager

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