

La Grande Evening Observer

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CURREY BROTHERS,
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LIBRARY BY TAXATION.

Pendleton ladies are working on a worthy work that is destined to give them as much notoriety and prominence as our very own ladies, who are building a park. While La Grande women are building a splendid park, Pendleton women are providing a library. In this connection, at a recent assembly of the Pendleton Library commission, one Miss Marvin, said: "No library can be successfully and permanently maintained in any other way than by taxation." The Pendleton East Oregonian voices the sentiment of The Observer when it comments thus on the incident:

The majority of local people will doubtless do likewise. A public library is a necessity—not a luxury. It is part of the educational system. It is a very valuable part. It takes up educational work where the schools leave it off. It furnishes the post graduate course. There are many who say that without proper library facilities much of the school work is lost.

This being the case, why should not a public library be supported by taxation? Why should a library have to lead a precarious life, dependent upon the liberality of individual citizens?

But this advice is for the future, not for the immediate present. Just now the library must be financed through public support and the ladies of the city are in charge of a movement to raise enough money to get the library properly started in its new quarters.

For the work they are doing and for the splendid entertainment they provided last evening the ladies richly deserve congratulation. They are doing a most meritorious work and they are waging the campaign along good, broad lines that assure success.

Let everybody aid in securing funds with which to equip the new library rooms. Then let the public sentiment insist that the city government maintain the library in the future and that it be given all the money that it justly needs.

BELAUDING CRIME.

"A thousand verdicts of guilty on so petty a charge as false swearing to a paltry land claim has no more effect in shaking the confidence of this community than would a drop of water have in causing the mighty Pacific to overflow its walls." Thus eloquently doth the Baker City Democrat comment on the conviction and belittles the crime of Banker Parker. What does it take to constitute a serious crime in the eyes of the Democrat? If perjury is a "petty" offense, is there any crime in the calendar that is not petty? In a similar sloppy vein the South Bend (Wash.) Journal says of a county official convicted for embezzlement that "He has more friends than ever he had before," and when he returns from prison "he will have the respect of every right-thinking man," and so on.

Newspapers which print such debased twaddle should be sent to Sunday school to take lessons in elementary morals. To praise men who have committed crime encourages others to imitate them. The strongest deterrent from crime is public abhorrence for criminals. The newspapers we have quoted are doing all they can in their silly way to make law-breaking a matter for laudation.—Portland Oregonian.

A great victory for law and reformation—even if reform did nearly cost

the life of Francis J. Heney—happened at San Francisco last evening. It is yet unsafe to throw up the sponge for such wiry men as Ruef employ for counsel, may yet squeeze out of a loophole and thwart justice.

The man, woman or child that thinks football too brutal, can see a sport of less ferocity at the rink tonight when the basketball game is being played.

There is a duty for every taxpayer in La Grande who has the welfare of the city's children at heart. The time is 2 o'clock Saturday; the place, the La Grande Central school building.

Big Rent for Alfalfa Farm.

Fifteen dollars an acre rental for the term of four years will be paid O. D. Teel of Echo, by the Henrietta Milling company for his 135 acres of alfalfa land within a half mile of that town. According to the terms of the lease the Henrietta company is to handle the property without expense to Mr. Teel and to pay a semi-annual rent of \$1013.50. The rental is the highest ever paid for a large tract of land in Umatilla county and the place will be managed by the milling company which will use the product in making alfalfa meal. While the rental is large, the ground is one of the finest alfalfa tracts in the Echo district and will easily produce seven tons to the acre.—Pendleton East Oregonian.

One ton of lard for sale at the Midget market, tomorrow at unheard of prices. Ten pounds to the customer; 3 lbs, 40c; 5 lbs, 60c and 10 lbs \$1.20.

Phone Main 96.
Ten pounds lard, pure, \$1.20.
MIDGET, Phone Main 96.

The Weather Today.

Oregon—Fair tonight, except rain in northeast portion; warmer Saturday; rain.

Washington—Rain tonight and Saturday; warmer tonight; southerly gale along coast.

Idaho—Fair south; rain and warmer north, tonight.

SCREWS ON CASTRO.

Has-Been Ruler in France But Must Refrain From Hostilities.

Bordeaux, Dec. 11.—Ex-President Castro left for Paris today. He will proceed, after a short stay there, to Berlin.

Paris, Dec. 11.—It is officially announced that the government has warned Castro that he will be expelled from the country if he makes any manifestations calculated to disturb public order, or give interviews to journalists or in any manner inaugurate a press campaign against France, or in justification of his own attitude or that of the Venezuelan government.

Sisters to Build.

North Yakima, Wash., Dec. 11.—The Sisters of Charity, a corporation of Vancouver, B. C., will erect an \$80,000 building here. Construction will start in the spring.

Will Discuss Tariff.

Pocatello, Idaho, Dec. 11.—Discussion of possible changes in the tariff on wool and hides will be a feature of the 55th annual convention of the National Woolgrowers' association, which will be held here the middle of next month. Forest preservation, the conservation of natural resources and lower freight rates are other subjects which have been placed on the program of the convention.

Buy your lard tomorrow at the Midget market, and save 20 per cent over the regular price.

OFFICER CASE NOW ON.

Oldenburg and McCoy Cases Will Also Occupy Court's Time.

This afternoon the James Officer case is before the court. Officer is charged with the larceny of a watch. The jury has been secured and it is thought by the attorneys that the evidence and arguments will be before the jury this afternoon and that the court will be able to take up the trial of McCoy, Oldenburg and John Doe.

The charge is that of breaking into a dwelling. This case is the outcome of a drunken brawl in which a woman is said to have been mistreated and her children abused. The charges made and implied are serious in the extreme and the evidence which will be introduced may be of a most startling nature. The principal witnesses for the state will be the woman and her 10-year-old daughter.

5-lb pail of lard, guaranteed pure, for 60c. Tomorrow only.

MIDGET MARKET.

COUPLE MARRIED.

Friends of George Herr Suspect Him of Having Gone and Done It.

Where are George Herr and Bessie Palmer? The supposition is that they either went to Boise or Walla Walla and were married this morning, according to theories formed by friends of both parties here today. Herr has been employed at the City Grocery store for some time, but asked for a two-weeks holiday. Bessie Palmer, daughter of Jesse Palmer, now in Boise, left school yesterday morning and has not been seen since. About that time Herr became missing and his friends have decided that the two played a joke on their friends and got married quietly. Miss Palmer is about 17 and has been making her home with Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery of South La Grande.

Four Eclipses in 1909.

Washington, Dec. 11.—According to the announcement of the Naval Observatory officials, there will be four eclipses next year, two of the sun and two of the moon. The first eclipse of the sun, June 17, will be visible in a large portion of North America, but the second, December 12, will be invisible in the United States. The lunar eclipses will take place on June 3 and November 26. The first will be visible in a part of North America, and the second throughout the continent.

MINNICK SENTENCED TO ONE YEAR IN PRISON

John Minnick was today sentenced to serve one year in the state penitentiary after being convicted recently for stealing two calves, the value of which is not stipulated in the indictment. His attorneys will appeal the case to the supreme court.

Something New.

A beautiful line of the famous Kiser hand-colored photographs of American scenes. The latest Christmas greetings and mottoes. Only a limited supply of each. If interested in these you will do well to call at once at THE LITTLE SHOP, 906 Main Avenue.

CHRISTMAS IS ALMOST HERE

And Whatever you have to spend, whether a large or small amount, your money will farther and buy the best goods at

West's

This is the store where the things you want don't cost "just a little bit more than you had planned to pay". We have purchased such astounding quantities of timely merchandise that we've been able to dictate pretty strongly to the manufacturers-- and so—you'll find the things you'll want here, for prices that are a good deal less than you've been used to paying. That all means that your Christmas list may be made out generously and that you'll save substantially on every purchase you make. If Santa Claus himself isn't at this store right now, he ought to be; he'd feel quite at home among the great piles of useful holiday things that crowd the counters. Come—and at once—if you wish to abolish worries and enjoy every minute you spend in planning for Christmas.

N. K. WEST,

"The No Favorite One Price Store"

Look Here!

- 3-lb pail Lard 40c
 - 5-lb pail Lard 60c
 - 10-lb pail Lard \$1.20
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G. E. FOWLER, Phone Main 10.

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Best 25c meal in the city
Beds 25c and 50c

Only house in the city employing white help only

All outside rooms. Board and lodge \$6. per week
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