

La Grande Evening Observer

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CURREY BROTHERS,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

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This paper will not publish any article appearing over a nom de plume. All articles will be received subject to the discretion of the editors and your names and save disinterest.

Advertising Rates.

Display ads furnished upon application.
 Local advertising 15c per line first insertion, 10c for each subsequent insertion.
 Resolutions of conference, 5c a line.
 Cards of thanks, 5c a line.

La Grande merchants this season displayed a greater variety and quantity of Christmas goods than ever before. The assortments in most instances are yet intact, but today and tomorrow will see a melting away until Christmas eve, when the happy recipients will be made known.

The best Christmas present that could possibly be presented to the Grande Ronde valley would be the completion of the 20,000-acre irrigation project. That would make possible the appearance of Santa Claus in hundreds of homes that do not now exist.

Homer's Ginger Brandy may soon become a close rival to near beer as dry county beverage. Dealers had better wait, however, until some cases go to the supreme court before laying in large stocks.

Great country, this! Skating on the river and the dust so thick in the streets that the street sprinkler should have run yesterday. Variety is the spice of life. No wonder we live so happy here.

Every woman should resolve with the new year to show as much respect for her church as she does for the moving picture show. That is, to remove her hat during services.

The last days before Christmas are quite noticeable at the bargain counters. They generally catch the spirit about 24 hours prior to the limit.

Just enough cold weather and skating to create the proper Christmas spirit and the slight moderation. This is a country where the climatic conditions are one of its chief assets.

What will the new year bring forth? It seems that appendicitis is growing rather stale. Not nearly so frequent as formerly.

WINTER SHORT COURSE.

O. A. C. to Give Course in Surveying and Road Construction, January 11 to February 6.

At the recent sessions of President Roosevelt's County Life commission in Portland, no subject received more consideration than did country roads. Throughout the discussions, the opinion was repeatedly expressed by the farmers and others present, that one of the most essential requirements for better rural conditions is better public highways.

Realizing the fundamental importance of this subject, the O. A. C. offers a four weeks' course in surveying and road construction. The course will be adapted to the needs of farmers and road officials. The work will be directed as far as possible, of all technicalities and may be taken by any one with a good working knowledge of arithmetic. The course will consist of about six to eight lectures, accompanied by mimeograph notes on the simple problems of land and drainage surveying, such as measuring and computing areas, checking descriptions, surveying and establishing grades for drains, etc. The instruction will be confined to such problems as may be solved by the methods of arithmetic but which cover a wide range of useful application on the farm. The United States system of land surveys will be carefully considered, together with such practical information on the same as every land owner ought to have.

The instruction in the class room will be supplemented by practical work in the field, where the student will construct and use such simple instruments as may be necessary.

ABSENT ONES MINDFUL.

Mail Carriers Substitute for Santa Claus and Bring Presents.

Postoffice business has suddenly jumped from lethargy to extreme volume. A week ago the amount of Christmas business was below the average for that period of the month, but today the city carriers are bur-

dened down on every trip. They are veritable Santa Clauses, for both Carriers Ball and Stoddard are "totting" more Christmas presents than letters this week. La Grande people sending packages should remember that it is contrary to law to send a note with presents. The sender's cards, with the words "Merry Christmas" or "Happy New Year," or both, are allowable.

HAS IRRIGATION PROJECT.

The Elgin Commercial club is arranging to make surveys along Dry creek, with the view of storing the waters of Dry creek, and apply the same to the lands near Elgin. It is believed the project is feasible and will enable some 8000 acres to be thoroughly irrigated. The land to come under this project is choice fruit land and will become extremely valuable as soon as the water is secured. It is alive to the value of irrigation, and will leave no stone unturned which will bring this project to a successful termination.

CHURCH DESECRATED.

San Francisco, Dec. 22.—The police are looking for the vandals who desecrated St. Dominic's church yesterday. Priestly robes worth hundreds of dollars were slashed into shreds. The altar laces were defiled and sacred candles tossed about. Furnishings of the sacristy were destroyed and vile obscenities scrawled on the walls.

Evidence of Guilt.

Flushing, L. I., Dec. 22.—Merrill Downs, a member of the Bayside Yacht club, where Captain Peter C. Hains shot and killed William Annis, for participation in which attack Thornton Hains is on trial, was placed on the stand by the prosecution today. He said when he was attracted to the club yacht pier he asked who was responsible for the shooting. He testified that the defendant replied: "We are the men."

Troops to Leave.

Havana, Dec. 22.—Evacuation of Cuba by American troops will begin 10 days hence, when the first transport will leave, and preparations for the event will soon be completed. The soldiers will be given a hearty farewell by the Cubans, but the regret will be tinged with jubilation, since the departure of the troops will mark another step toward the restoration of home government in Cuba.



At the Scene This Week.

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE.

- No. 1—6-room house, bath, toilet, pantry, gas cellar, wired for lights; also some good furniture. Location on Jefferson avenue. \$2,000.00.
- No. 2—7-room house, fair condition, 4 lots on W street. \$1,000.00.
- No. 3—5-room house, bath, toilet, pantry, cellar, wood house; wired for lights; location on First St. \$2,100.
- No. 4—5-room house, bath, toilet, wood house; wired for lights; location on Z street. \$2,000.00.
- No. 5—5-rooms, bath, toilet, pantry, fair cellar, barn; 2 lots set to good fruit trees; location on 2nd street. \$2,000.00.
- No. 6—4-room house, barn, two lots. Location on Trowbridge St. \$1,000.00
- No. 7—6-room house, wood house, one lot. Location on First street. \$1,200.00.
- No. 8—6-room house, hen house, wood house, 2 lots. Location on S street. \$1,000.00.
- No. 9—5-room house, pantry, large barn, 20 bearing fruit trees; elegant outside home place. Location on North Fourth street. \$2,500.00.
- No. 10—5-room house, 3 1/2 lots; 11 fruit trees. Location North Fourth street. \$1,1700.00.
- No. 11—4 rooms, cellar, wood house, some fair furniture with house. One lot. Location on S street. \$1,200.00.
- A part of the above list can be purchased with one-tenth down, balance easy payments.
- No. 12—4-room house; 4 acres land, 4 shares water; wood house. \$1,800.00.
- No. 13—3-room house, 1 acre land, 1 share water; good wood house; nice lot berry bushes. \$1,950.00.
- No. 14—5-room house, 3 closets, pantry, cellar, wood house, on 2 acres best land near town; 2 shares water;

FLYNN LICKED.

Reviled After First Blow and Asked What Happened to Him.

San Francisco, Dec. 22.—Sam Langford, the colored fighter, last night knocked out Jim Flynn in two minutes in a scheduled 20-round battle. Flynn had no chance. Langford hit him in the jaw, and Flynn went down like a log. When he came to, he asked what hit him.



NO ONE HESITATES

OVER OUR CANDY.

Everybody that knows our confections at all is aware of their purity, their freshness, their fine flavor. If you don't know, "get acquainted." You certainly get your money's worth in this candy shop whether you buy an ounce, a pound, or a 5-pound box.

E. D. SELDER, THE CANDY MAN.

Something New.

A beautiful line of the famous Kiser hand-colored photographs of American scenes. The latest Christmas greetings and mottos. Only a limited supply of each. If interested in these you will do well to call at once at THE LITTLE SHOP, 206 Main Avenue.

Violin and Viola Instruction.

Miss Young will open a studio to a limited number of pupils at the home of Mrs. Harriet R. McDonald, 1616 Sixth street. Phone Black 462. Excellent preferences given.

THIS STORE IS READY FOR ANY TEST YOU MAY GIVE IT--WE OFFER YOU A VARIETY OF HOLIDAY GOODS, THE EQUAL OF WHICH CANNOT BE FOUND IN ANY OTHER LA GRANDE STORE

There never was a better time to put his store to the gift test than now. It never looked better. Stocks never were more attractively displayed or conveniently arranged to select from. Every department is showing an endless variety of good gift things. Salespeople are alert, courteous and eager to help you make your selections. Prices are nowhere lower; variety that gives to our merchandise a character peculiarly its own. A gift thing from WEST'S is a gift that will be highly appreciated by the recipient for many many reasons. Walk through the store may offer you some suggestion, for the hundreds of thoroughly appreciative gift things of merit we are showing makes ours

La Grande's Ideal Gift Store

For your own pleasure, satisfaction, economy

COME AND SEE

The result will be more fitting presents for all whom you remember and a big SAVING for you.

N. K. WEST, "The Quality Store"



J. H. PEARE LEADING AND PIONEER JEWELER

The ideal Christmas gift for yourself. The one that will be truly appreciated and enjoyed, is a pair of my Glasses. If your eyes are beginning to evince any signs of a defect.

By proper and prompt attention you might have to wear them but a short period. A fact that you should consider now and have me fit you.

Hot Chickens Tamales.

E. D. Selders has added to his confectionery department, hot chicken tamales, and those who enjoy these delicious specialties will find the best ready for your order at E. D. Selder's candy store.

TIME AND CASH

Saved by my Method of Digging Wells

No Wood Used

Gasoline Engine Saves you much time and money.

Instruction in Gasoline Engineering

Call or Write

R. A. WEST, The Well Driller

Grande Ronde Lumber Co. PERRY, OREGON

CAN FURNISH LUMBER OF ALL KINDS IN GARLOAD LOTS.

For 16 inch Chain Wood Delivered at your home, Call up V. E. BEAN, La Grande. Phone, Red 1741

BLUE MOUNTAIN HOUSE

T. J. GRAY Prop. (New Management)

Rates \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 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 One block from depot

TRY OUR SERVICE

Complete equipment for resetting and repairing rubber buggy tires.

LA GRANDE IRON WORKS

D. FITZGERALD, Proprietor Complete Machine Shops and Foundry