

La Grande Evening Observer

Published Daily Except Sunday.

CURREY BROTHERS, EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

United Press Telegraph Service.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Daily, single copy... 5c; Daily, per month... 65c; Daily, six months in advance... \$3.50; Daily, one year in advance... \$6.50; Weekly, six months in advance... 75c; Weekly, one year in advance... \$1.00

Entered at the postoffice at La Grande as second-class matter.

This paper will not publish any article appearing over a nom de plume. Signed articles will be received subject to the discretion of the editors. Please sign your articles and save dis-appointment.

Advertising Rates.

Display ad. rates furnished upon application.

Local reading notices 10c per line first insertion; 5c per line for each subsequent insertion.

Resolutions of condolence, 5c a line. Cards of thanks, 5c a line.

SUPPLY INEXHAUSTIBLE.

A prominent farmer who is giving the subject of irrigation careful consideration, called at The Observer office today and stated that several farmers like himself, were anxious to know positively if there was sufficient water to fill the reservoir to insure each and every year, to irrigate the 20,000 acres required to insure the project. This naturally is a proper question of inquiry and if there is room for doubt, it impairs the feasibility of the undertaking.

Messrs. Pierce, Stoddard and Bramwell, it will be remembered, were the original promoters, and at that time it was purely a private enterprise. These gentlemen secured the service of Civil Engineers Young and Kelsay, of Salt Lake City, to examine the proposed scheme and to make a report. These gentlemen did so and made a lengthy report, which was published in The Observer in September, 1907. The report covered several columns. After going into the question of supply minutely, showing the watershed of Meadow creek, the report placed the total water supply at 31,000 acre feet. This means that the conditions and supply of flood waters would store a sufficient volume of water in the reservoir, after deducting seepage and evaporation, to irrigate 31,000 acres of land to the extent of 12 inches of water for each acre, that is, there would be sufficient to cover the entire 31,000 acres of land with water 12 inches deep. When David Eccles went over the report carefully he not only said the project was feasible, but, realizing that irrigation was a new problem in this valley, suggested that to make the best possible showing both from the standpoint of the capitalist and the land owner, to make the basis of the undertaking 20,000 acres instead of 31,000, and then all question as to supply would be eliminated. This report of Kelsay and Young also shows that if necessary, the flood waters of Grande Ronde river could be conveyed into the reservoir. The question of water supply has been thoroughly considered and a visit to the site, where the large reservoir, consisting of 800 acres, is located, will satisfy anyone.

Everything considered, the engineers stated this was one of the most favored locations that they had ever examined, and their report shows that in comparison with all of the many irrigation projects constructed and in course of construction, there is not a single one in the northwest that covers such a large body of land with so little expense. Where people are familiar with the advantages to be derived by the use of water applied just at the time it is needed, this 20,000-acre project would be picked up before we could possibly realize it. This project is assured. Our people are beginning to think and are investigating. This means its success.

MILITARY DRILL FOR BOYS. With public sentiment strongly in favor of keeping down the size of our standing army, the proper thing for the government to do is to make the nucleus of "regulars" as efficient as possible and to provide in various ways for military training among the reserves.

Under the guidance of Secretary Root, the educational and administrative departments of the army were vastly improved. The new system requires a much larger number of commissioned officers, because of the

headquarters work. In time of war, it is essential that this work should be well in hand and that there should be enough highly trained men to distribute among the volunteers.

It is right for the government to detach a certain number of officers for service as instructors in educational institutions which offer military drill. And a wise extension of this kind of aid is provided for in two bills sent to congress with the approval of President Roosevelt and Secretary Wright. It is proposed to issue equipment to schools that are willing to take up field instruction, and a special appropriation is requested for the encouragement of rifle practice in schools, colleges and civilian rifle clubs.

Military drill has been given in the public schools of eastern states for many years. For at least 30 years it has been compulsory in the high schools of Boston and it is there regarded as a great success. It teaches the boys both to obey and to command, gives them healthful exercise and an erect carriage, and imparts an elementary knowledge of tactics. There are bayonet and sword exercises, and the schoolboy officers are strictly examined. A system of prize drills and an annual parade of all the regiments keep the interest of the boys from flagging.

In almost all the public schools where military drill is given, the weak point is that the boys are not taught how to shoot. They get the discipline and learn the evolutions, but there is no target practice. The guns used are often condemned Springfield rifles which are serviceable only for the manual of arms.

Very little time is required to teach raw recruits in simple evolutions that it is necessary for them to know. It is for the officers to translate the orders that come down the line. But marksmanship is acquired only by deliberate practice, for which there is small opportunity after a call to arms.

Great interest is reported in schoolboy rifle practice, especially since the successful tournaments in New York and Washington. The National Rifle association has taken steps to co-operate with the army board, and whatever the action of congress may be, the movement may confidently be expected to spread.

The training of target shooting is not confined to skill in shooting. It steadies the nerves and improves "the eye." It reduces carelessness about handling firearms, for their danger is taught, and the rules of the range are reverred. Moreover, the electric machine rifle, which fires no charge, is becoming very popular for target practice.—Spokesman-Review.

Local wood dealers are having a harvest this weather. The snow on the mountains permits them to bring out large loads. March and April is generally the high price period on fuel in this city. The mountain roads for several years during this period is almost impassible.

Tomorrow is the last day in which to get ready for the event of events. New Years day will soon follow, but we only have one Christmas day, all others are secondary.

THE FEBRUARY TERM.

Will Be a Short Session From Present Appearances.

The chances are that the coming term of circuit court will be a short session, owing to the fact that under ordinary circumstances a number of cases tried at this term which ended this morning, would have been tried at the February term. The grand jury was in session twice during the present term.

Stole \$20.

Bellingham, Dec. 23.—With tools secured from the railroad car shops, two burglars bored into and blew an iron safe in the Bellingham Bay and British Columbia depot this morning. They secured \$20.

Complete Change.

Complete change of pictures at the scenic tonight. Of course, the vaudeville acts will contain new features. Have you heard Zeita Lovell sing, or seen her dance the Highland fling? The Dutch and Irish comedians have something new this evening. Nuff said. A whole show for 15 cents.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

Auxiliary Elects and Will Install Early in January.

The G. I. A. of B. of L. E. elected officers for the ensuing year yesterday afternoon. The new heads of de-

ADDITIONAL LOCALS.

A. C. Miller of Enterprise, arrived on the evening train from Joseph.

Ed Rumble is over from Elgin this evening transacting business.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Bach of Imbler, came in this evening to spend Christmas with Mrs. Bach's mother, Mrs. Stacy.

It is reported that from Mt. Glen on north the sleighing is good. There is every indication that the sleigh bells will be ringing in the morning.

The case of Huntley against J. W. White and L. W. Faulk, where the plaintiff charges that goods were improperly attached, is on trial in Justice Stewart's court today. It is a long drawn out affair.



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 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.



J. H. PEARE LEADING AND PIONEER JEWELER

partments will be installed the second Tuesday in January. Mrs. Fred Schilke is past president and the other new officers are:

Mrs. F. M. Jackson, president; Mrs. George Hillman, vice-president; Mrs. C. M. Humphreys, secretary; Mrs. G. W. Sheppard, treasurer; Mrs. Mary Kalmbach, chaplain; Mrs. F. Pike, guide; Mrs. Fred Johnson, sentinel. The appointive officers have not yet been named.

Escape Fire in Storm.

New York, Dec. 23.—Over 1000 men, women and children were driven from burning homes in Brooklyn this morning in an icy storm that was sweeping the streets. Scores were overcome by the fire and others were unconscious in the biting cold. A heavy snowstorm is raging. An entire block was badly damaged. Many are destitute.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT.

Notice is hereby given that Otho Eckersley, administrator of the estate of William J. Shoemaker, deceased, has filed his final account as administrator of said estate and the county court of Union county, Oregon, has set Monday, the 4th day of January, A. D. 1909, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon of said day, and the county court room in the court house, La Grande, Oregon as the time and place for hearing said report and all objections thereto. Dated at La Grande, Oregon, this 4th day of December, A. D. 1908.

OTHO ECKERSLEY, Administrator.

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 this 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"

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

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

Complete equipment for resetting and repairing rubber buggy tires.

LA GRANDE IRON WORKS

D. FITZGERALD, Proprietor Complete Machine Shops and Foundry