

# La Grande Evening Observer

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CURREY BROTHERS,  
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

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### THINK OF THIS!

The following editorial taken from this week's issue of the Portland Journal, would lead one to think, who is not acquainted with the climatic conditions of the locality referred to, that it might be situated in some arid or even semi-arid section of the state. Molalla is situated about 29 miles south of Portland, where until the county roads were drained, neighboring farmer boys took their recreation of beating from one farm to another in the county roads. Many of these farms have to be drained during the winter months, but that does not eliminate the fact that during the maturing season of the year they are short of water, and irrigation will make these farms more valuable, the same as irrigation will make the farms of Grande Ronde more productive, hence, more valuable.

"The people of that splendid and exceedingly resourceful county, clackamas, or at least that portion of them living in the Molalla river district, are manifestly waking up. They have not only organized to irrigate several thousand acres of that section, which will greatly increase the value of its farming lands and allow of subdivision of large farms and intensive farming, adding much to its population and wealth, but an electric railroad up the Molalla valley is projected and according to reports seems assured. Instead of waiting for and depending wholly upon outsiders, the people up there are proceeding to do something on their own account, to help themselves, to cause development and progress to begin at home.

In these projects the Journal wishes them entire success, and doubts not that if they pull together they will succeed. In doing so they will not only add greatly to their own wealth and general prosperity, but they will set an example that may be of immense benefit to other sections of the state as a whole. Irrigation; intensive farming; electric railroads; good wagon roads—these are what many localities in the Willamette valley need, and they can only be had by the people "waking up" and "going after" these things."

The year 1908 has passed into history, but from a historical viewpoint it has had few equals along general reform lines. It is doubtful if another single year can show as much effectual effort to bring about a bettering of the conditions of the United States as the year just closed. More agencies have been at work and the public has responded to a greater degree. Much has been accomplished and the foundation has been laid for continued enlargement of our liberties and national and personal elevation. The great reading public has been given much more pure reading and reading with definite objects in view that have been no small factor in bringing about cleaner conditions politically and socially. The mark of infamy has been stamped on fraud and graft as never before. Scores of municipal officials have resigned and have been defeated, for acts which the enlightened public would not tolerate. Look at our United States senate, how the pruning knife is wending out many of those whose political life for years

has depended from the influence and power of special interests that no longer dominate. Along with these special interests might be cited the power of the saloon and liquor dealers. Note how temperance is sweeping the country. Thousands upon thousands of saloons were voted out of existence during 1908, and thousands more will be, in the 12 months to follow. Few sections of the country today remain where the candidate for public honors can openly defy decency by publicly forming alliances with liquor dealers. With the change of public sentiment on temperance comes the wiping out of the gambling tables and the pocket.

There is hardly a single extensively read magazine or journal that has not employed great reform writers whose object is to educate the people on some one or more important subject that needs adjustment. The Woman's Home Companion turned its batteries on "child labor"; the editor of the Ladies' Home Journal, on the demand for "social purity"; the Housekeeper, on our "Public Schools"; Collier's Weekly through its pure food campaign has given deceptive patent nostrums great publicity. The Delineator is placing hundreds of walls in pleasant homes, and thus the list could be extended to scores. The daily press stands for much higher ground than it did 12 months ago, any casual reader can see this, as expressed by the editorial columns. A meeting took place a few weeks ago of the Federal Council of the churches, where such topics as "How to get in closer touch with the laboring man," were discussed, and this was no sudden burst of enthusiasm. Many denominations are giving this department of their work especial interest and practical results are noticeable. Our form of government is such that one cannot stand still—we must either progress or degenerate. We are now in the midst of moral progression. So many avenues are being touched to bring about reforms in one way or another, and as a whole, advancements are in evidence. The year 1908 has made a record that can be pointed to with pride by every good citizen.

Poor Senator Foraker, a man with great ability, a man who could have been of great service to his state and the nation at large, will step down and out of the United States senate. He is not alone. He simply did not keep in touch with the progress of the age. Politics is becoming purer and purer in this country, and the combinations and alliances that were possible, and tolerated, a few years ago, when men like Foraker were leading spirits and creators of public sentiment. These men have not kept their ear to the ground and their bosoms have not been in touch with the breathings of emancipation of the voters, but have simply listened to the directors of the corporations. As a result they are wondering what great change has taken place. It is too bad that men of ability like Senator Foraker of Ohio and Senator Bailey of Texas, succumb to temptation, but the world is full of good men who may take their places.

Rheumatism this year seems to be more prevalent all over the Pacific coast than usual. One season grip takes a run; another something else, but our exchanges contain more accounts of people suffering from rheumatism than from any other one illness. On the whole, however, the general health of the northwest was never better than at present. A contagious disease flag has not been noticeable in La Grande for many months.

What are you doing to make the meeting of all meetings for 1909 a success. We, of course, refer to the irrigation meeting that is to be held in this city on January 16.

**Fresh Poultry for New Year's.**  
 We now have a liberal supply of turkeys and other poultry for New Year's dinner. 23-14  
**GRANDE RONDE MEAT CO.**

**WANTED**—Local manufacturer's agent to sell and install our New-Comb Boiler Insulator and Fireless Cooker; acts in every household; permanent income of \$1500 to \$2000 per year; few hundred dollars required to handle proposition in this town. Address for particulars, Range Boiler Insulator Mfg. Co., 289 E. Wash. St., Portland, Ore.

## USES STRONG ACCUSATIONS

Summerville, Jan. 2.—(To the Editor of The Observer.)—In regard to an item that was in your paper a few days ago about there being fighting and a "rough house" at one of the saloons here, it is a mistake, as far as the fighting is concerned, for there was none. As for the soft drink houses, they are about as hard as before the local option went into effect. "Rough houses" are a common thing as there are drunks and disorderly people nearly every day and night. Gambling is allowed most of the time. Our town officers are so good that some will take a hand in the drinking and gambling and without a show of being any better. During the "rough house" your article referred to, furniture was broken and the floor scrubbed with beer and malt, some of which had given them a light head and tangled feet.

W. S. HUNTER.

### Notice.

La Grande Lodge No. 41, A. F. & A. M., regular stated communication this (Saturday) evening, Masonic hall at 7:30. Work in E. A. degree. All masons are cordially invited. By order of W. M.

A. C. WILLIAMS, Sec.

### Came Near Choking to Death.

A little boy, the son of Chris D. Peterson, a well known resident of the village of Jacksonville, Iowa, had a sudden and violent attack of croup.

### Birth Record.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Avery Harrison, in this city this morning, a daughter.

### Week of Prayer.

New York, Jan. 2.—As has been the custom for many years, evangelical churches in New York City will observe the week beginning with the first Sunday in the new year as a week of prayer. The Evangelical Alliance for the United States has recommended many topics, which will be almost universally used.

### Prohibition Fight.

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 2.—The liquor issue in all its phases will be a burning question before the legislature when it convenes here this month. State-wide prohibition advocates are making strong claims and opened headquarters here with former Senator I. L. Pendleton in charge.

### May Revive Racing.

Hot Springs, Ark., Jan. 2.—A legislative act which would permit racing here under restrictions, has been presented by the business men's committee, asking for a 60 to 90-day race meeting here each year, to be divided between late fall and spring meetings. The racing is to be conducted three days of each week, to be under the government of three citizens of the county who shall be appointed by the governor. They shall receive their pay from the county after \$100 revenue is placed upon the racing each day. The bill will be presented to the legislature the second week in January as a Business Men's league bill, and will be backed by local business interests.

The Portland Oregonian spread itself January 1 with a fine illustrated annual edition. It reflects much credit on the makers of that paper.

### NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT.

Notice is hereby given that Otto 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.  
 OTTO ECKERSLEY,  
 Administrator.

# N. K. WEST'S

## Tenth Great Annual Clearance Sale

Designed to Effectually Reduce our Stock to a Minimum

All Consideration of Profit are Ignored to Accomplish the Desired end of Converting Merchandise into Available Cash

Once each year, at the end of the season, we hold our Great Annual Sale, where nothing counts with us but quick sales and empty shelves. This event has come to have special meaning to hundreds of people who watch for this opportunity to actually save a large sum in merchandise buying. Each year we endeavor to make this sale greater than the last, and this will be the greatest in the history of the BIG STORE.

Every article in house Reduced  
 Sale Holds from Monday, January 4th to Saturday, January 30th

Much thick phlegm came up after giving Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Mr. Peterson says: "I think he would have choked to death had we not given him this remedy." For sale by all good dealers.



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.

### Notice to Dog Owners.

Notice is hereby given to all dog owners that the 1909 dog tax tags are here in the hands of the city recorder, and that on and after January 1, 1909, all dogs found without said tax tags will be taken up and disposed of according to city ordinance.

J. W. WALDON,  
 Chief of Police of the City of La Grande. D2231

### A Sprained Ankle.

As a rule a man will feel well satisfied if he can hobble around on crutches an two or three weeks after spraining his ankle, and it is often two or three months before he is fully recovered. This is an unnecessary loss of time, as by applying Chamberlain's Liniment, as directed, a cure may as a rule be effected less than one week's time, and in many cases within three days. Sold by all good dealers.

## 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

Complete equipment for resetting and repairing rubber buggy tires.

## LA GRANDE IRON WORKS

D. FITZGERALD, Proprietor  
 Complete Machine Shops and Foundry

THE LATEST AND PRETTIES!

## Holiday Gifts

COLLARS, BELTS, PURSES  
 TOYS and BRIC a BRAC

E. M. WELLMAN & CO.  
 —ADAMS AVENUE—

# 1909

Start the New Year Right—Save money some of those bargains at the Peoples Store, Opera House Block, every article in the store reduced in price

# 1909