

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 disappointment.

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ROOSEVELT'S ARDUOUS RIDE.

President Roosevelt's critics will characterize as spectacular his arduous 28-mile horseback ride, through rain and sleet, over muddy Virginia roads, but that is not the right word, for an important purpose was back of the achievement.

The president learned by experience in the Spanish-American war that many of our army officers, from long dalliance with the comforts and pleasures of peace, found themselves unfitted for service in the field. By observation he saw that England suffered terribly in the Boer war from the same cause, and after that Russia in its war with Japan.

Hence his sagacious efforts to keep our soldiers physically hardened in time of peace by practice marches and the more recently directed equestrian tests.

These wise precautions have evoked an astonishing amount of grumbling from army officers who had allowed themselves to become incapacitated, and who, therefore, regarded as a hardship the really moderate requirement to take the test of 90 miles on horseback within three days, even though they were given several weeks to put themselves in training.

President Roosevelt reasoned that nothing could be so effective in reply to these complaints as a personal demonstration. In that demonstration, made on a wintry day, in rain and sleet, he sat in the saddle for 17 hours and covered 98 miles in a single day. Further grumbling after that achievement will be taken by the country in a mixed spirit of amusement and impatience. The army is maintained for the nation's defense—not to provide comfortable berths and tender solitudes for officers and men. If there are officers who cannot, after ample training, cover in three days eight miles less than the president covered in one day, they should be retired. The army is not the place for molly-coddles.—Spokesman-Review.

MEETINGS INTERESTING

CHILDREN'S CHORUS ADDS TO INTEREST.

Evangelist Harris is Pleasing Speaker—Void of Pulpit Paganism—Clean Presentation of Gospel.

The special services in Central Church of Christ continue with growing attendance and interest. Four good prayer meetings were held yesterday afternoon. The audience last evening was the largest since Sunday. The children's chorus is one of the pleasing features and the little folks sang again last night. They also gave a demonstration of their bible work. Mrs. Harris has been drilling them for several days and the evidence of her good work was clearly seen. The children were able to name the Old Testament books in order and classify them as to their subject matter, etc. They showed like knowledge of the New Testament. At the close Mrs. Harris asked how many grown people could answer the same questions, but no one

Furniture SALE

The January Clearance Sale continues. This is a bona fide sale and every article in the store is reduced. Many have taken advantage of these bargains, but there are many bargains still waiting for you.

FURNITURE AT PRICES WHICH WILL ASTONISH YOU

ADCOOK AND FRITTS

volunteered. Parents should see that their children join this Bible class, which meets each afternoon after school. The work is entirely unsectarian and very helpful. The sermon last night contrasted the riches of faith with the poverty of unbelief and was a strong presentation of a truth too often ignored, that the man who believes in Christ is immeasurably richer than the one who refuses to consider the testimony fairly and accept the truth. The meetings close early and people can afford to go nightly. The larger part of the expenses were subscribed beforehand, so that finances are not emphasized.

Good singing, not only solos, but congregational music, add much to the interest. The preaching is simple and kindly, and should appeal to those who love the truth, but abhor pulpit pugilism.

Tonight the sermon is from the text, "Prepare to meet thy God." Services at 11 and 7:30 tomorrow. Morning theme, "Suffering and Glory." Evening, "Unconscious Influence." Meetings continue well into next week.

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Samuel R. Haworth, who has the contract of building the Enterprise court house, came in tonight to spend Sunday with his family.

Mr. and Mrs. Lilly arrived this afternoon from Wallowa county, where they have been making their home for several weeks. Mr. Lilly was formerly of the Swaney-Lilly cigar store firm.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Sommers of Elgin, are here to spend Sunday. Mrs. M. C. Newton went to Baker City this afternoon.

A. B. Heulat returned on the Elgin train today from business visits to northern points in the valley.

EXERCISES AT WILLAMETTE. Methodist Institution to Have New President Next Week.

Salem, Jan. 16.—Appropriate ceremonies will be held every day next week in Willamette university, leading to the inauguration of Fletcher Holman, who has been elected president.

The presidents of several Oregon colleges will preach from pulpits at Salem churches tomorrow. They may assist in the inaugural exercises.

Lodge Notice.

La Grande Lodge No. 41, A. F. & A. M., stated communication at 7:30 this evening. Masonic hall. Work in F. C. degree. All Masons invited. By order of W. M.

A. C. WILLIAMS, Secretary.

FOR RENT—Eleven-room house on Fourth street, known as Ladd property. Inquire of Miss Pauline Lederlee. 1-14-6t

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