

**La Grande Evening Observer.**

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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The next legal battle, the decision of which, will lay the foundation for effecting materially existing commercial relations. We refer to the decision of the United States Circuit Court of Chicago, in the Missouri River rate case wherein, for the first time the right of the power of the Interstate Commerce Commission has been a question. If the United States Supreme Court holds that this body has no right to make rates its usefulness is practically at an end, its power will be reduced to about the same power as our state railroad commission. It can suggest that the railroads place bulletin boards in the depots showing the arrival and departure of trains, and that the depots be swept out occasionally.

It must be admitted that the power of rate making effects the entire commercial interests of each individual in the community. Special rates and rebates in the past have builded large individual firms, corporations, and trade centers at the disadvantage of others not so favored. The coast cities today are rejoicing in the recent Chicago decision, not based upon the justice of the decision, but upon the fact they see a possibility of either postponing or securing an adverse decision in the Spokane rate case which wherein the present railroad rates makes all of the great Inland Empire pay tribute to the coast cities. Every pound of freight by the interior pays a tariff directly to the jobbers of the coast cities. La Grande merchants pay the through rate on their merchandise to the coast cities and the local rate back, why should it cost the Observer office \$240 more on a car load of paper than it would if the paper was carried on 360 miles further and delivered to a Portland printer. The Observer was simply taxed \$240 for the privilege of doing business in the interior. It is any wonder the coast cities are building up at a greater rate than the interior. It has been a long and persistent struggle for the people to make the railroads respect their rights. In fact at the outset the railroads maintained that the people had no right whatever, that the men put their money in railroads, had the right to charge what they pleased, that if the people did not want to pay the rates they fixed they could walk or haul their freight. We have passed all that and the rights of a common carrier are well established along many lines.

If the reader will note there has been very little said regarding the government ownership of railroads which was a live topic a few years ago. The reason for this relaxation is due to the fact that congress increased the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission and the courts decided against the merging system then in vogue, which practically eliminated competition, but if the powers of the Interstate Commission are throttled until it simply becomes an advisory board you will hear more about government ownership of railroads than ever in the near future, and may become the political issue of the next presidential campaign.

There is a subdued volcano smoldering that is likely to break out collectively. Individually there have already been several out breaks and that is against the present water meter rate. For household purposes there is little if any complaint, but when it comes to paying 25 cents per thousand gallons for irrigation it is beyond reason and if continued visitors will wonder why La Grande has

such a shiftless appearance. It requires a great deal of time to keep a yard pretty and when aside from this, the property owner is taxed exorbitantly for the purpose of beautifying the city it soon becomes a burden. To illustrate for several years La Grande has enjoyed much pleasure and profit and many flower gardens are in existence today owing to the interest taken in our annual aster shows, but if our readers were compelled to pay the water bills of those who by their energy make such things possible they would cease raising flower beds. The reason of this sudden complaint arose from the fact that not until this season has the majority of the patrons been placed on a meter system. There is no fight on the meter system, it is the only proper equitable system, you pay for what you use, but the consumer has something to say about the rates. Ten cents would be a big rate to pay during the irrigation season which would probably not exceed \$1.50 per lot for irrigation. Under the present pumping system it does not cost to exceed 5 cents per thousand gallons, why ask 25 cents, for something that beautifies the city and which all enjoy.

New records among those who are pioneers in aviation are being made so frequent that even those greatly interested must keep close attention or they will be behind the times. The latest success being that of the Frenchman Paulhan, who remained in the air for three hours and then descended only because he exhausted his fuel.

**TALKING ABOUT US.**

**Many Stopping Over to See Grande Ronde in Daylight.**

It is evident that Grande Ronde valley is being talked of to an extent, as it is evidenced by the fact that so many people upon making their return trip east arrange to stop over in La Grande in order that they may have the opportunity of viewing the valley in the day time. There is hardly a night but from three to a dozen families get off on the night train for this purpose.

**For Sale.**

Cucumbers, all sizes, for pickling. Now is the time to put up your dill pickles. Fleshman Bros., phone Black 622, residence 1812 Y avenue. (A-20-30-t)

**Notice.**

There will be a meeting of the Riverside park association tonight at 7:30 at the residence of W. H. Bohnenkamp, for the purpose of considering the proposition of W. F. Chace, landscape architect. All members are requested to be present.

MRS. E. POLACK,  
Secretary.

**\$100 Reward For**

the arrest and conviction of the person who took from my pasture, last week in March, a black pony, weight 1000 pounds; white hind foot, branded small "H" on right shoulder and half circle "V" on left stifle, and recurrey of animal.

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Invested in a bottle of those wonderful, harmless fat-reducing tablets and in 30 days you will be a normal, well-formed person again. Don't carry around your ugly bulk, your ungainly superfluous flesh. It makes you miserable, ridiculous and what is more important, it subjects you to fatal consequences, sudden death from fatty degeneration, heart disease, kidney trouble, apoplexy and muscular rheumatism—all come from OVER-FATNESS.



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ANTI-CORPU strengthens weak heart, cures palpitations, short breath, and acts like magic in muscular rheumatism and gout.

PRICE \$1.00 per bottle. Money back if it don't do all we claim. If your druggist does not keep it, show him this advertisement and make him get it for you, or you can send for it DIRECT to us. We pay postage and send in plain wrapper.

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For particulars, address,

ANNA E. PLYMPTON, Principal.

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OFF**

**On all Fancy Chinaware and  
Cut Glass**

SOME ODDS AND ENDS IN SEMI PORCELAIN DISHES, HALF PRICE GOOD VALUES. TO MAKE ROOM FOR NEW STOCK. DO NOT FORGET ABOUT OUR ECONOMY AND MASON FRUIT JARS.

1 pt. Economy, per dozen ..... 1.10  
1 qt. Economy, per dozen ..... 1.35  
2 qt. Economy, per dozen ..... 1.75  
1 pt. Mason, per dozen ..... .75  
1 qt. Mason, per dozen ..... .90  
2 qt. Mason, per dozen ..... 1.25

**F. L. LILLY.  
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JOHNSON & BRUCE MGR'S.  
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The Sensational Sensation  
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Great Story, Big Cast.

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Made Fresh every day.

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When you take that vacation you are going to spend most of the time out of doors. We have specially stocked up with the necessary small gold jewelry for these occasions. The following are a few of our specialties: Gold Scarf Pins in clever designs, set with Raroque Pearls, Amethysts or Garnets. Sleeve Links, of solid gold, large size, plain or fancy designs. Everything else in jewelry. All at most reasonable prices.

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