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LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER

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GEORGE H. CURREY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Advertising Rates.

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Resolution of condolence, 5c a line.

FOOT BALL RULES.

On the latter part of this month the committee that fixes the rules for football will decide what they will be for 1910. No little interest is being taken in this decision both east and west. If the present rules are sustained not a few colleges will disband their football teams. Two things must be done or football will always be under the ban of the parent who furnished the boys for the sport. One is that plays which furnish opportunity for injury must be eliminated. The other is the fact that the young men are members of the football team means that he stands just a little bit higher in his studies than others in the school. He should, for the very reason that he is physically stronger, quicker than the others, or he would not be acceptable to the team managers.

The press everywhere is demanding that the rules for 1909 be changed. The Baltimore Sun editorially has the following:

"Thirty deaths, 216 players injured, 12 broken collar bones, 8 broken noses, 12 broken legs, 19 broken ribs, 13 broken shoulders, 8 broken wrists, 8 broken fingers, 6 broken hands and 3 broken jaws.

This is not the list of casualties of a battle, remarks the Washington Star but merely the "score of an athletic game," which is supposed to be "a stimulus to manhood, a developer of youthful brawn and a builder of character."

A table prepared by the Chicago Tribune and revised to include later casualties shows 30 deaths from football during the season just ended and 69 serious injuries, while in 1907 there were 14 deaths and 131 injuries and in 1908 13 deaths and 134 injuries.

The large proportion of fatal injuries and the death of Cadet Byrne in so prominent a match as that between Harvard and West Point lend unusual vigor to the customary post-season editorials on football.

After calling attention to the long list of those killed and maimed on the gridiron this season the Baltimore

Sun makes the following comparison: "In the battle of Manila Bay Admiral Dewey's fleet was under fire for seven hours and only six men were wounded and none killed. In the great battle of Santiago the American loss was one man killed and about a dozen wounded. Football would, therefore, seem more dangerous to the life and limbs of young Americans than actual warfare."

The opportunity is now. We have apparently laid the foundation. Public sentiment is seemingly concentrated and now is the time to act to secure the Chautauqua. If we do not it is very doubtful if we have another opportunity for the reason that there is not room at the present time for more than one chautauqua in Eastern Oregon. La Grande is naturally the place, being a central point to the residents of Umatilla, Wallowa and Baker counties. Yesterday a representative whose business it is to place the attractions for other chautauquas on the Pacific coast visited La Grande, coming direct from San Francisco, where the secretaries of the coast chautauquas meet and sign their contracts for the coming year. There are so few such organizations in this state that those interested knowing that La Grande had been talking chautauqua for some time and through correspondence were offering us every encouragement for the reason that a chain of chautauquas can command better and higher talent, La Grande was offered these attractions and the commercial club took the matter in hand and was given until January 10th to officially sign the contract. During this time an opportunity will be offered the people of this city and county to contract for tickets and if sufficient interest is taken, or in other words if enough tickets can be placed to warrant the club in backing the enterprise La Grande will have a chautauqua. Once started it will be a permanent institution here as in other places. Those interested should commence talking chautauqua and never stop until it is an assured fact. If we let this opportunity slip La Grande will discover too late that her people will be taking the trains for some other point during July of each year.

President Collier's re-election as president of the Commercial Club was a deserved compliment to his untiring efforts during the past year. La Grande is fortunate in having a man of Mr. Collier's ability take such personal interest in public affairs. Backed by such men as compose the board of directors it is no wonder that success is spelled in capital letters upon every undertaking that the Commercial Club undertakes.

That was a splendid idea advanced last evening at the meeting of the Commercial Club for a general banquet to be held on the 4th of January to which the members of the other county organizations would be invited to attend. We only have to cite the advantages of united effort, the Spokane Apple show, Union county as a whole made a most excellent showing which had not Union, Elgin and Cove joined La Grande would not have been possible.

The La Grande Commercial Club which has been a factor in the upbuilding of this city and county has passed another milestone in its history. Every business man and property owner in the city and vicinity should become a member of this wide awake organization.

Spokane seems to have handled her oratorical contest in a successful way inasmuch as "silence is considered golden" by not a few, at any rate the arrests have materially decreased.

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Notice to Creditors.

Notice is hereby given to all whom it may concern that Ovanda M. Noyes has been appointed by the county court of Union county, Oregon administratrix of the estate of David Hawes, deceased. All persons having claims against the estate of said deceased are required to present them with the proper vouchers within six months from the date hereof to the Administratrix at her home, No. 1591 Adams avenue, La Grande, Oregon. Dated December 10, 1909. OVANDA M. NOYES, Administratrix of the estate of David Hawes, deceased. (Dec. 10-17-24-31.)

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