

LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER

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THE TOWN THAT MAKES A CITY

Whenever a new country like Eastern Oregon begins to get to herself there is one town that makes a city and sometimes more. In this part of the state it is reasonable to suppose there will be at least one city of more than 25,000 people within the next few years. No one can question this assertion.

As candidates for that city there are at present La Grande, Pendleton, Baker City and possibly Ontario. The latter town is just beginning to get in the race. With four starters in this race for supremacy what will be the outcome?

Analyzing the situation without any desire to knock either of La Grande's three competitors, we respectfully call attention to Pendleton. She was at one time one of the busiest cities in the west, but large land holdings that produce only wheat prevents Pendleton from being very active to become the city of 25,000. Baker City is a good town. It is the center of a large area, but carefully count Baker's immediate resources and then turn to La Grande enumerating what is in sight here.

It is not necessary for us to repeat what La Grande has. Her pay rolls—third largest in Oregon—her splendid valley, Wallowa county, her lumbering industry, her flouring mills her sugar factory—all are too well known to need mention. Then turn your face to Ontario, the last of the competitors. There is a good chance for Ontario to become somewhat of a railroad center and it will mean a good, healthy town but she will in no way compete with La Grande, and besides Ontario has no development as compared with this city and vicinity.

No matter how you turn the problem, no matter which column of figures you add first you cannot help, if you are unprejudiced, from arriving at the one and only conclusion—La Grande will be the twenty-five thousand city.

This should be so well understood by our people that there is no longer any question as to what the future will bring forth and all plans for improvements should be made for a city of not less than the number of people mentioned.

A good business built in La Grande today will be worth ten fold in a few years. The same is true of real estate. If you have a little loose money buy some of the Grande Ronde valley land, or buy a few lots in La Grande. There is absolutely no chance to lose and every chance to win.

LOSTINE NOT IN GRANDE RONDE

The moving of Lostine from its old site to the new O. R. & N. railroad is attracting quite a little attention. Yesterday the Oregonian gave a splendid editorial on why it is necessary to move towns to railroads and called attention to the story of "least resistance" which is always appropriate. But the Oregonian was mistaken when it state Lostine is in the Grande Ronde valley. It is in Wallowa county. This is another proof that Union and Wallowa counties must get together and do some screaming, for many people who have lived in the northwest for years and do not know where the different towns in these counties are located.

The Sumpter Valley railroad has at last had a wreck, which is to be regretted. But really that little narrow gauge road seemed to lead a charmed life, for with steep grades and soft roadbeds the trains have scampered up and down those mountains for several years seemingly in peril, yet never a mishap.

It is stated that a man in Portland will try for the nomination of governor on the republican ticket, and that this same man prominently supported Harry Lane for mayor of Portland and George Chamberlain for senator. Now, if that is the best brand of republicanism Portland can produce, let her secede from Oregon politically. Who cares?

But the strange feature is that the "non-partisan" judiciary did not spring from Oregon City instead of Portland. Probably Justice William R. King had a stronger foothold with Portland attorneys than he did with the remarkable Mr. U'Ren.

And soon June will come with her bridal wreaths and wedding rings. Then, too, the sweet graduate will appear. Great is the month of June. It makes us all younger and causes us to appreciate the world as it is.

The report that Binger Hermann is improving from a severe illness is received with satisfaction by most of the Oregon people.

Such rains as occurred last night retard the irrigation project in the Grande Ronde valley.

THOSE CHURCH SPIRES

By M. QUAD

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The village of Tomkinsville had two churches. The Methodists built a house of worship with a cupola and hung a bell there. The Baptist edifice was also to have a cupola and a bell, but the funds ran short at the roof. It was the intention to wait a year or so and then finish up, but five years had passed and nothing more had been done. Meanwhile one bell pealed for all, and both sects dwelt together in unity. There was no envy, no jealousy, no criticism.

Then the blow fell. It came like a thunderbolt. Deacon Wheeler of the Methodist church and Deacon Ames of the Baptist leased ten acres of land in partnership and planted it to corn. Each furnished half the seed and was to do half the work. One day when the corn was tall enough for the first hoeing and the two deacons were working side by side Deacon Wheeler pointed to a patch of grass and observed:

"Deacon, it strikes me that that is a good place for a bumblebees' nest."

"Yes, kinder looks that way," was the reply.

"Bumblebees orter be rooted out."

"Waal, I dunno. The Lord made 'em."

"But they are pesky things. We shall be plowing this corn with a horse next time, and s'pose they pitch into him? I reckon I'll root 'em out."

"But don't kill any more'n need be. It's wicked to take life if you don't have to."

Deacon Wheeler found bumblebees there. They also found him. They resented his intrusion at once. They likewise resented the near presence of Deacon Ames. They went for the two men hot foot and got in their work and chased them from the field. It was after the bees had given up the pursuit that Deacon Ames turned to the other and exclaimed:

"Now see what we've got by your meddling. If you wasn't an old fool you'd have let them bumbles alone!"

"Old fool? Why, Deacon Ames, you are six years older'n I be!"

"But I told you to let 'em alone."

"Say, Deacon Ames, you are talking mighty sassy!"

"But I've got a right to."

"Yes, talking mighty sassy for a Baptist."

"And what about the Baptists?"

"Waal, you can see your meeting house from here. Does it look like a meeting house or a cooper shop? I guess more'n one stranger has had to ask to find out."

"Are you digging at me because we hain't got a cupola or a bell?"

"I'm a-saying that if more bumblebees had been stirred up mebbe your folks would have finished the building."

It was all over between the deacons. Deacon Wheeler went home to tell his wife about it, and Deacon Ames walked straight to the parsonage and said to the minister:

"Parson Jones, something has got to be did. I've been insulted, our old building has been insulted, and now if we can't go at it and finish it up I'll sell out and move away."

"We don't want no cupola nor bell. Cupolas are for schools and bells are for factories. What we want and what we are going to have is a spire—a thing shooting up in the air about sixty feet—something that can be seen for five miles around. Cooper shop! We'll show the Wheeler crowd whether we've got a cooper shop or a church. That 'ere spire shall pierce the clouds on the one hand and the

hearts of the Methodists on the other. It'll be before their eyes night and day. They'll have to walk in its shadow to get to their own church. Cupolas and bells? Why, they hain't had nothing of the kind in New York city for fifty years past. Our building is going to be right up to date, even if we have to put in bathtubs and electric bells."

Of course Deacon Wheeler and his sect heard of these things, and the deacon winked with his left eye and replied:

"Going to have a spire, eh? Going to be seen for five miles around, is it? Waal, you jest wait a little. Mebbe there'll be two spires to be soed."

And so there was. The Baptists had no sooner begun work on theirs than the other sect started in and sold the bell, demolished the cupola and began on a spire. Then it was a race to see which spire should be the highest. Each one jealously guarded its secret. As a matter of fact, as measurements afterward proved, the Baptist spire was just three-quarters of an inch the longest, but one rubber necking from the earth could not have been sure.

After six months the spires were completed, and each church planned for a festival to be held the same night. Two hours before night a fierce storm of thunder, lightning, rain and wind set in. It had been raging half an hour when a great crash was heard. Ten minutes later there was another. As soon as the storm abated the two deacons got out for a look around.

"Gosh!" exclaimed Deacon Wheeler.

"Gosh!" exclaimed Deacon Ames.

The two spires lay on the ground in masses of wreckage, and neither has been replaced to this day. Some blame one deacon and some the other, but it was those bumblebees that brought about the whole thing.

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NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION—ISO-LATED TRACT

Public Land Sale. Department of the Interior. U. S. Land Office at La Grande, Oregon, May 2d, 1910.

Notice is hereby given that, as directed by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, under provisions of Act of Congress approved June 27, 1906 (34 Stats. 517), we will offer at public sale, to the highest bidder, at 10 o'clock a. m., on the 7th day of July, 1910, at this office, the following described land:

The NE 1-4 SE 1-4 Sec. 33, T. 3 S., R. 35 E. W. M., Serial No. 06912.

Any persons claiming adversely the above described land are advised to file their claims, or objections, on or before the time designated for sale.

F. C. BRAMWELL, Register.  
COLON R. EBERHARD, Receiver.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for Union County

George Palmer Lumber Company, a private corporation, Plaintiff, vs. F. M. Byrkit, Defendant.

To F. M. Byrkit, the above named defendant, you are hereby summoned and required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above entitled action on or before the last day prescribed in the order for publication of this summons made by the court in this action which order requires the summons to be published in the La Grande Daily Observer for the period of six weeks: You will take notice that if you do not so appear and answer the complaint filed in the

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above entitled action within the time named that judgment will be taken against you for the sum of \$6,300.00, with interest thereon at the rate of 6 per cent per annum from the first day of October, 1908, and for the further sum of \$600.00, reasonable attorneys fees in said action and costs and disbursements.

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