

LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER

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BRUCE DENNIS
Editor and Owner

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A RIDE WITH CLEAVER.

The man who has no knowledge of the Grande Ronde valley only what he has picked up here and there, should take a ride with G. W. Cleaver, as the editor of this paper did, recently through what is without doubt one of the choicest sections of the universe.

Tom Richardson, Mr. Miller, Mr. Cleaver and the writer left La Grande in the afternoon, traveling through Fruitdale and out to Island City, then to Imbler and back by way of Alice.

It is a wonderful district we visited. People are fast putting their lands into orchards and on either side of the road for miles the scientifically planted tracts present that magnificent appearance showing fruit culture has come to stay in the Grande Ronde, and each year will did frame of mind.

We found the ranchers in a splendid mind.

There is optimism and happiness in the rural district of the Grande Ronde. There is progression and up-to-dateness. Farm houses are painted, barns are well arranged and live stock is cared for in the best way possible. Fields have not been permitted to become idle. In sections where wheat is planted it looks first class. The alfalfa is remarkable considering that practically no irrigation is enjoyed. On every hand the farmer shows his genuineness.

The country around La Grande is head of the city. This may not be a popular remark to make, but it is the truth and the Observer under this management is going to deal with the truth no matter how it sounds.

But the price of land. Ridiculously low. We were told that good farm land could be purchased for \$75 an acre. And this is land that will produce good fruit if set to orchards. Think of it. Seventy-five dollar land. And the new comer does not know it. Simply because no one has told him.

This land will produce at present sufficient crop to pay interest on three times the price asked. This being true, why should it remain at \$75 an acre?

There is no reason in the world, and it will not stay at that figure long. The orchard land, we are told, vary in price, but it also is very

cheap as compared with young orchards in other sections.

It is easy for anyone to go out and find fault with conditions, but the remedy is what counts. Senator La Follette came west with his lecture telling of irregularities in congress, but he offered no remedy and therefore his argument fell short. So with the man who goes out with Mr. Cleaver or any other citizen, and finds fault with prices if he fails to offer a remedy his talk amounts to little.

But there is a remedy. An easy remedy. The change is to be brought about through concerted action on the part of the farmer, the land owner and man living in La Grande, Elgin, Union and other towns.

The interests of all these individuals are mutual and each must do his part. By uniting and following a plan of action this Grande Ronde valley land can be raised in price in three months time. And not only be priced higher, but will be selling.

Every real estate man, especially owes it to the community to do a little extra thinking and acting. And if there is anyone found knocking the trade of another send his name to this office with proof and we will take pleasure in publishing all the circumstances. For there is only one class of men that should be knocked—the dishonest fakir and promoter.

Many business men in this city have fruit lands in the valley. Several, Portland and Seattle men have seen the opportunity and grasped it, and now the thing to do is to get the farmers together for a campaign of higher priced real estate.

No one will believe this valley is good until a price is asked for the land. In this day of continued land hunting you cannot make people believe you have something good unless you ask them a fair price for it. Remember this and act with some concerted movement toward a better valuation.

BAKER'S MOSS BACKS SCORE.

Over in Baker City the paving has been impeded by a bunch of old "Well Enoughs" who cannot prove that moss is not clinging to their backs in huge chunks. When the city administration had exerted its efforts to turn Baker from a village into a nice little city there came along the "old timer" with his hammer. He said paving was too expensive, that it did not bring any more business; that the expense was greater than the benefit, and all that kind of argument we have heard in every city that tried to grow.

But the Well Enoughs did not stop with this. A bunch of them owned an irrigation ditch which ran through the principal part of the city. It was necessary to pipe the water through some of the streets in order that paving might be done. The city ordered the ditch owners to do the piping, and the ditch owners stood on their riparian rights. They said they had been there before there was a city; they had rights prior to those of any city in eastern Oregon and they would do no piping, at the same time throwing out the warning sign to anyone who saw fit to tamper with their irrigation ditch. The matter got into court, which is a thing always to be regretted. The city stood its ground and demanded a show down, claiming if there were a few be-whiskered brethren going to run the remainder

of eight thousand people it was high time all should know it. Then the circuit court upheld the contentions of the ditch owners, and the steam roller and rock crusher of the paving company were silenced and now stand idle on the streets of Baker.

This may be law, for law is a funny thing you know, but it is not progress; it is not making a city when the time was abundantly ripe for so doing; it is not taking advantage of opportunities, and if the ditch owners win a final victory in this matter Baker City's name will go over the northwest as the home of the worst lot of moss backs that have ever went on record.

La Grande is apparently more fortunate than Baker. On every hand here can be heard a good word for paving. Not a property owner is objecting to it. And listen, while Baker people are fighting among themselves over their riparian rights, which really do not amount to a proverbial thinker's mill dam, La Grande is going to carry off that "possum on the back of which is printed, "La Grande, the metropolis of Eastern Oregon."

The Pendleton Tribune has ceased to exist and upon its dead form stood a semi-weekly newspaper called the "Live Wire." G. A. Robbins is editor and announces that his paper will be what the name implies—lively to the limit.

FAST MEET AT CHERRY CITY

HUNDRED YARD DASH UNSETTLED BUT OTHERS INTERESTING.

By Winning Relay Handily, Cove Lays Claim to the Meet.

Until an appealed decision is settled, Cove stands the winner in the dual meet held at Cove last Saturday afternoon. At the present way of rating, Cove won the meet by taking the relay handily, placing herself four points in the lead, final score Cove 58, La Grande 54. La Grande lost but three firsts out of the entire meet, but lacked the men to take seconds and thirds. In the broad and high jumps Cove took all six points, which brought her up to and ahead of her rivals. Every La Grande athlete acquitted himself with honor, Peare, Heidenrich and Carpy being the big point winners. However the local relay squad had striven hard to win points previous to the relay and was easily bested when the deciding race came.

Hundred Yard Dash in Dispute.

When the hundred was started, Starter Johnston of the Cove schools, well known in football coaching circles, said he would fire the gun the second time if a poor start was had. When the gun was fired, Bolton and Carpy and two Cove runners ran out the race, believing the start had been legitimate. The starter protested the event however, as two Cove sprinters had been left sitting on the mark. Johnston claims he tried to call the runners back by re-firing the gun but it failed to snap. He did not shout to the runners to return but disputed the event when it was completed. Later the event was disqualified until action can be taken by the board of appeals of the Eastern Oregon Athletic association.

It's high time to spray. Get your machine to work at once. 4-12-10

Notice to Contractors.

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received at the office of the City Recorder for the construction of 7930 square feet of cement sidewalk and 1586 lineal feet of artificial stone curb, to be constructed on Fourth street, between "O" Avenue and Depot Street and on Pennsylvania avenue between Washington avenue and Fourth street. Said walk and curb to be constructed according to plans and specifications now on file in the office of the City Recorder, bids to be received until 4 o'clock p. m., May 25th, 1910, and to be accompanied by a certified check of 5 per cent of the amount of the bid. The Council reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

D. E. COX,
Recorder of the City of La Grande.
4-12-23.

Clothes Confidence



comes with the assurance that you are correctly attired for any and all occasions. Alfred Benjamin's correct clothes for men and young men, reflect every essential of standard fashion and give that personal sense of efficiency that only perfectly tailored, accurately fitted clothes can give.

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Clothes give the highest degree of dress distinction and individuality in addition to more than satisfactory service, at a moderate cost. "They are sold in La Grande" exclusively in our men's clothing department where any day you can see twenty-five to thirty new spring models in fine all wool worsteds, cassimeres, chevots and mixtures. Also elegant blue serges and blacks at

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N. K. WEST, THE Quality Store

Notice to Contractors

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received at the office of the Recorder of the City of La Grande Oregon, for the construction of 43,920 square yards of macadam pavement, to be constructed according to the plans and specifications now on file in this office. Bids will be received until 4 o'clock p. m., May 25th, 1910, and must be accompanied by a certified check of 5 per cent of the amount of the bid. The Council reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

D. E. COX,
Recorder of the City of La Grande.
May 12-23.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION—180-LATED TRACT

Public Land Sale. Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at La Grande, Oregon, April 16th, 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 20 day of June, 1910, at this office, the following described land:

The S 1-2, SE 1-4 Sec. 32; SW 1-4 SW 1-4 Sec. 33, T. 2 S., and the NW 1-4 NW 1-4 Sec. 4, T. 3 S. R. 37 E. W. M., Serial No. 06729.

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.

GEORGE PALMER, Pres
F. J. HOLMES, Vice-Pres
F. L. MEYERS, Cashier.

W. L. BRENHOLTS, Ass't Cash.
EARL ZUNDEL 2d Ass't Cash.

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Capital and Surplus \$180,000.00

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