LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER

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THOSE PIONEERS

La Grande was honored this week by a meeting of the pioneers. It is always pleasant to see the country builders and trail blazers. There is something about their manner that is individual and different. They know what it is to do without sugar in their coffee, and most of them have seen times when a tailormade suit was not worn every day.

They are men, brave and strong, because they have undergone privations in early days. Many of them now ride in automobiles and have the best the land affords, but are they not entitled to every luxury? They surely are.

During the pioneer meeting most of the visitors has some reminiscence to relate that was not only interesting but instructive as well. They recalled the days of years ago before people paid so much attention to clanishness, before the social sets were cast and before little questions were magnified into troubles that caused neighbor to be pitted against neighbor.

When they settle Oregon it was as one large family. Unless a man was a criminal having committed some unpardonable crime he was not an outcast. And if he committed a serious crime in most cases his neighbors gave him justice in short order. In those days collection agencies were not necessary. People paid their debts when it was possible for them to do so, and dealt honorably with their fellow creatures.

Grandma Jackson in relating her early experience, said she crossed the plains with an ox team just after she was married. Instead of having cut glass and fine silverware she had tin pie plates and tin spoons. And she said many were the nights she sat on the ox yoke as herself and husband ate their evening meal.

The world was before them. Everything was expectancy and pursuit rather than possession. They were coming west to carve their futures and they succeeded very well, just as all people who come west with the intention of working have succeeded.

Yes, there was more happiness in the pioneer days than at present because there was more contentment. When people travel a great deal and see different localities they become dissatisfied. In those days it was not so easy to travel and everyone was more contented to remain where they chose to call home.

But the meetin of the pioneers was a good thing for the participants and a good thing for La Grande. We hope that each year they may meet in this city and that kind providence will be slow in thinning their ranks.

SHOWS EFFICIENT WORK

The jury's verdict in the escheat case shows that the most careful and earnest work has been done by F. S. Ivanhoe, prosecuting attorney for this district, in protecting the state's interests. This is a case of more than ordinary interest and involves about $25,000 worth of real estate. Its history is so well known that repeating is not necessary.

The case was tried and carried to the supremen court where it was outlined along somewhat different lines and sent back to this district for retrial. The second trial has just been finished and a jury has been convinced that the claims made by the state through the prosecuting attorney, were just and valid thereby establishing the verdict. Doubtless it will again go to the supreme court for such is to be expected in so important a matter. Regardless of that feature it must be admitted that the case has been handled in a most able manner.

There is being planned a revival for the local commercial club to take place in the near future and a membership campaign will follow which will rival anything of the kind ever attempted in Oregon. No city can prosper without a commercial club that is active. La Grande has enjoyed the distinction of having a good commercial club for a long time and will continue in the same way for a revival always helps and organization.

Senator Lorimer is up against a hard proposition. There was a time when a senator could buy his way into the United States senate and little was said of the matter. But that time has passed, we hope, forever, and the senator from Illinois stands accused before the world and unable to make a defense.

One would naturally think that the United States senate had become sufficiently civilized to do away with twenty-four hour speeches such as Senator Burton is now delivering. Still, Senator La Follette did a little of that himself at the last session.

Union sends word that she is coming several hundred strong to celebrate the Fourth of July with La Grande, and this city delegation megaphones back the message, "You are welcome, Union, bring the whole family and camp with us."

Just now the boys of La Grande are having a hard time keeping away from the fruit grower who is trying to employ cherry pickers. A great many of the lads have signed up for the season, for La Grande boys as a rule are willing to work.

ENGINE JUMPS RAILS.

Spreading Rails Cause Delay to East Bound Traffic Today

Engine 214 going out with 216 to pull No. 6 out this morning, jumped the track at the Fir street switch when a rail spread. Within a half hour's time, however ,the engine had been pushed back to clear the track for the other engines, and 357 and 12 were hurried out to take the train east. The trucks on 214 were badly twisted by the accident.

A colony of about 60 families of Bohemians have settled in the vicinity of Tule lake in Klamath county, where a new town has been located and laid out under the name of Malin.

Call For Bids.

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the construction of 870 feet of sewer, to be built according to the plans and specifications on file in the office of the Recorder of the City of La Grande, Oregon, will be received at the office of said Recorder up to 4 o'clock p. m., on Wednesday, July 6th, 1910. All bids to be accompanied by a certified check for 5 per cent of each bid. The city reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

La Grande, Oregon, June 24th, 1910.

J. K. SHEAK,
G. D. FLEMING,
W. J. CHURCH,
Health, Sewerage and Water Committee. June-24-July 6.

Nehalem Enterprise—We saw quite an interesting spectacle last Tuesday, when a spirited horse was drawing a delapitated buggy with only three wheels. The horse seemed unconcerned about the matter, but the owner had a melancholy expression on his countenance which was the result of the thought in his mind that the village blacksmith had a cinch on his purse.