

LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER

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ALFALFA AND THE GRANDE RONDE

If we were advising every young the best way to procure for himself a lifetime income, we would not tell him to take out life insurance, neither would we advise him to buy stock in any corporation, but we would frankly urge him to buy a piece of Grande Ronde valley land and plant it to alfalfa. He must use judgment and get land that can be watered, but for that matter most of the Grande Ronde will be irrigated in a few years. You may not think so at this time, but it is sure to come.

If a young man will save his earnings and buy some land; then plant it to alfalfa, the financial battle for a livelihood will largely have been fought.

Regarding alfalfa which is the greatest forage crop known to man, the Oregonian prints the following editorial in which are comments from Secretary Coburn who is authority on the subject:

"It is not a day too soon for every farmer in western Oregon to begin to plan for sowing a field of alfalfa next fall or spring. In the cultivation of this most valuable forage plant the preparation of the soil is next in importance to the vigor and purity of the seed selected. Success depends upon the utmost care in both particulars, but once obtained it is worth all it costs many times over. An acre of alfalfa will produce three times as much protein as an acre of clover, nine times as much as an acre of timothy and twelve times as much as an acre of brome grass. These figures are given by the famous F. D. Coburn of Kansas, in Country Life for July. Mr. Coburn seldom makes an error in his statements. Think of buying protein for dairy cows from the feed stores at fancy prices when it can be produced at home on almost any soil for a few cents a ton.

"It is true that soil deficient in lime is not the best for alfalfa, but still there is hardly a farm in Oregon so poor in lime that the plant will not flourish on it. It is a common sight now to see alfalfa growing wild here and there, sometimes by neglected roadsides, and yet the complaint is still heard from farmers that the climate and soil of Oregon are not adapted to it. Fifteen years ago the same thing was said about red clover, which is now raised everywhere in the state.

Mr. Coburn emphasizes the importance of selecting good seed. Most of the failures on record have come from planting seed which had not vigor enough to germinate, or which was full of impurities. The seed should be purchased from a reliable dealer and before sowing it should be tested. It is said that the faculty of the Agricultural College will make the test for anybody who wishes free of charge."

TAFT DESERVES THE PRAISE

While Jacob H. Schiff was in Portland recently he gave out an interview that is interesting as well as instructive. Among other things he said:

"The policies of President Taft are entirely proper and their results in legislation enacted by the Congress which has just adjourned will be beneficial.

"Railroad regulation is all right, and the regulation of the railroads, in the present bill, has gone to a greater degree than in any previous measure. It was the uncertainty of things that was working havoc with

the business world. The railroad bill is now passed and the railroads now know what to expect. They can quickly adjust themselves to the new conditions and within a few months the affairs of the business and financial world should be on a satisfactory basis.

"The people who get 3-12 and 4 per cent interest on their savings accounts in the larger cities will not deposit their money in the postoffices," said Mr. Schiff, turning to the postal savings bank bill. "I can see how those in the smaller communities will find it difficult to get securities to deposit with the government for the money the postal savings accounts will furnish them. Therefore, the government will be forced to take the money deposited in the postoffices and deposit it in Washington or elsewhere. This will work a hardship on the small banks in the less populated portions of the country."

We believe the New York banker voices the expression of the business public all over the country. By this we do not mean that he voices the popular sentiment, for there is a vast difference between popular sentiment and business sentiment. The people will get right in time, but the desire to worship heroes is so great that for a long time they will overlook the commercial end of affairs in order to clap their hands and wave the banner.

That is just the situation so far as Taft is concerned. He is no actor and therefore is not commanding the popular attention at present. But Taft is a doer of things and for that reason people who do business and lots of it have reason to know he is safe, sane and capable.

STRIKING A SOUND BASIS.

Throughout the northwest money is plentiful, but there is a desire on the part of bankers to see that the country is not tied up financially and for that reason a disposition is noticeable which demands not only good security for money, but a knowledge of what investment an individual is going to make with borrowed capital. Probably there are some who will think this is treading on personal rights, but such is not true. Apparently any man has a right to invest in whatever he sees fit so long as he gives proper security for money borrowed, but beneath this is a principle of safety from a community standpoint that a practical banker cannot overlook.

In most localities there is a strong demand for money right now and harvest has not begun. There are different causes for this condition which need not be discussed at the present time. But the fact that there is a strong demand for money is sufficient reason for bankers and money lenders to watch the steam gauge carefully, and by so doing avoid any unnecessary dangers.

Everything is running in fine shape, but there never was a time when the steering apparatus of the financial wheel did not need careful watching. That is what is going on at present. When a man appears at a bank for money he gets it with proper security, but his proposed investment is usually understood.

This shows that conditions are striking a sound basis and the country is slowing down its speed from the "joy ride" clip it has been going to a safe inside the speed limit jog.

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suance of a resolution adopted by the Common Council of the City of La Grande, Oregon, on the 9th day of Feb. 1910, creating Improvement District No. 17 and designating Jefferson Avenue, as such district, and in pursuance of a resolution adopted by said Common Council on the 17th day of June, 1910, whereby said Council determined and declared its intention to improve all that portion of Jefferson Ave. in said improvement district as hereinafter described, by building cement sidewalk 12 feet wide, the Council will, ten days after the service of this notice upon the owners of the property affected and benefited by such improvement, order that said above described improvement be made; that the boundaries of said district to be so improved are as follows: All that portion of Jefferson Avenue, from the East line side of Depot to the West line of Lot 5, B. 113 Chap. Add.

Notice is hereby further given that the Council will levy a special assessment on all the property affected and benefited by such improvement for the purpose of paying for such improvement. That the estimated cost of such improvement is the sum of \$600.00.

That the Council will on the 13th day of July, 1910, meet at the Council chamber at the hour of 8 o'clock, P. M., to consider said estimated cost, and the levy of said assessment, when a hearing will be granted to any person feeling aggrieved by such assessment.

La Grande, Oregon, June 22, 1910. CITY COUNCIL OF LA GRANDE, OREGON.

By D. E. COX, Recorder of the City of La Grande, Oregon.

June-28-July-9.

Call For Bids.

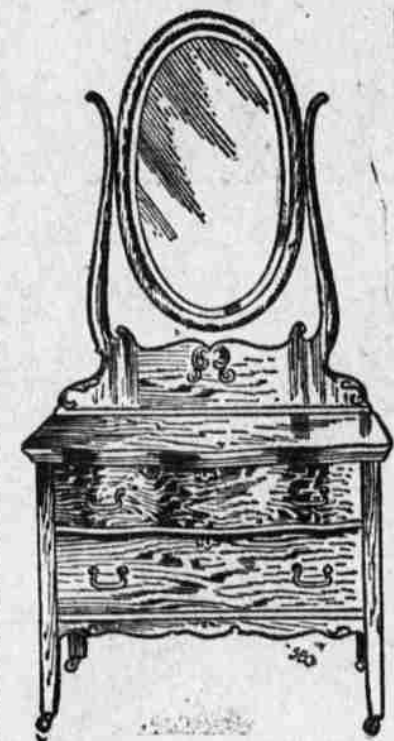
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the construction of 870 feet of sewer, to be built according to the plans and specifications on file in the office of the Recorder of the City of La Grande, Oregon, will be received at the office of said Recorder up to 4 o'clock p. m. on Wednesday, July 6th, 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.

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