

THE OBSERVER
BRUCE DENNIS

Editor and Owner.
Entered at the postoffice at La Grande as second-class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Daily, single copy 5c
Daily, per week, 15c
Daily, per month, 65c

This paper will not publish an article appearing over a nom de plume. Signed articles will be revised subject to the discretion of the editor. Please sign your articles and save disappointment.

GRANDE RONDE GIRLS FAR SUPERIOR.

Tom Lawson's daughter is coming to Portland, "with her husband." Mind that last expression, "with her husband." She is a married woman and that husband must feel like five cents worth of beef liver when he reads that he is to accompany Tom Lawson's daughter to the coast.

Of course the daughter must have her picture in the daily papers, but that was a mistake for when one looks at her engraving a feeling of disappointment comes chasing up the spinal cord. Lawson's daughter should have been pretty at least to claim all of this distinction. But she is not. We can pick a hundred girls in the Grande Ronde valley that will shy her clear off the board when it comes to good looks.

Thomas Lawson is noted as a gambler, he admits it himself. He is one of the pink carnation kind, but is one size gambler any better than another. Wherein is Tom Lawson entitled to recognition above the poker player?

THE STATE TAX LEVY.

When you read of the state tax levy being the lowest in years bear in mind that assessors are supposed to have assessed all property at full valuation this year instead of one-third to one-half of its worth as previous years. If this has been done it would necessarily make the levy smaller, but the amount of taxes to be raised will be as great or greater than in years gone by.

This, however, is not cause for complaint for Oregon and every

county and city in it are growing and expanding thus requiring more money to carry on the public obligations.

The amount of taxes one pays is not of so much importance as what is being received for the money collected. Whether it goes into salaries for useless commissions, or whether it is spent in improving and benefiting the state, is the important question. At present Oregon is suffering from an overdose of commissions and commissioners, many of which could be dispensed with and the people in Union county would never even so much as miss their work. Salaries for commissioners and clerks and office expenses soon makes a big budget of expense and the taxpayer meets that expense, just as he meets all expenses.

The legislature that will grab the pruning knife and sharpen it to a keen edge, then use it upon one third of the departments created in late years will be a legislature that will go down in history as a great body of lawmakers.

Pacific Coast Defenses.

(Lewiston Teller.)

The fact that Secretary of War's confidential report on defenses for the country's coasts, especially for the Pacific coast, was suppressed is generally accepted as an admission that it was alarming in its recognition of national war weakness. While the Secretary of War is not a pessimist, he cannot fail to recognize facts. His conclusion must be largely in agreement with that of General Wood, chief of staff of the army, who advocates a considerable strengthening of the national defenses, both in army and navy.

The Secretary of War has himself said that any first class power could land 100,000 men on the Atlantic coast in from 10 to 18 days. The minimum number of troops needed for the first line of defense along the Atlantic coast and Gulf coast is 450,000 men, which is about four times the total available force in the United States. Even the force we have would require 30 days' time for assembling.

On the Pacific coast, where there is practically no coast defense, an equal number would be needed. Here it is estimated that an enemy could land 100,000 men in from 16 to 20 days. General Fred D. Grant, commander of the East, agrees with the War Secretary that nearly a million troops are needed to protect the coasts.

It is generally admitted that the

country is in most danger from an attack on the Pacific side, where its defenseless condition invites hostility from any foreign power that cherishes a grievance. The refusal to recognize the defense needs on the part of some Congressmen shows an attitude of either folly or policy of the nation may be, its peace cannot be maintained without preparedness. To be strong would discourage attacks from outside powers. To be confessedly weak offers a constant temptation to world plunderers to gain rich spoils from the great wealth of this nation. The country's wealth but magnifies its weakness.

"Reward" for Peary.

(Kansas City Journal.)

Since his return from the wilderness of ice and snow Robert E. Peary's attitude toward the American people has not been such as to enhance his own glory in the popular mind. It will be remembered that Peary conducted his explorations while on the payroll of the navy department to which he gave no real service for years. He was permitted abundant leisure to lecture and write and collect money for his various expeditions and was never called to account. The people believed in him and they treated to his honor to reflect credit upon his country and the navy department.

Soon after Peary reached home with the claim that he had found the North Pole he made application for promotion and governmental recognition. He did not even call upon the navy department as he should have done as a detached officer reporting for duty. All of his business was with newspaper and magazine publishers, to whom he sold his first message of accomplishment. All of his thoughts seemed to be mercenary. He had no word to speak to the American people except when it was paid for. And, according to the reports, when he was recalled to the navy department to go to work he resented this as an infringement of his privileges. He wanted to write more and lecture for money. And all this time his friends were importuning the government to shower honors upon the explorer, although Peary himself refused to submit proofs of his achievements to the government authorities.

Now it is announced that Peary has promised to submit his proofs to the government. He said that he was unable to do so before on account of his contracts with his publishers. The government comes last, and yet Peary's friends have demanded his promotion and medals for their hero without the proofs that they required from Dr. Cook. There are those who insist that Peary did not get any nearer to the North Pole than Cook did; but most persons will not be inclined to dispute Peary's title to the honor. There is no indication, however, that he has contributed anything to science or that any other valuable results have come from his discovery. The government and the American people have supported him all these years and made it possible for him to make a fortune out of his books and lectures. Surely that is reward enough for a man who appears to think more of money than of patriotism.

FARMER WINS 80-ACRE HOME

Lewis County Man Secures Prize for Growing 224 Bushels of Oats to the Acre.

Theodore Harms, a rancher near Salkum in Eastern Lewis County, has distinguished himself and incidentally won an 80-acre farm, by raising the largest number of bushels on his farm of ten acres, according to a Chehalis dispatch. An Eastern seed house offered a premium of a farm to the former who would raise the largest crop from their seed. Harms sent for the seed, and recently threshed on his 10-acre ranch oats that went 224 bushels to the acre. He sent his figures to the seed house with proper affidavits, and they mailed Harms a choice of two 80-acre farms in Marinette County, Wisconsin.

Want ads pay one cent a word

UMBRELLA REPAIRS

Govers from 50 cts. to Three Dollars

L. C. Smith-La Grande

Thirteen Proves to Be a Lucky Number

West's 13th Annual

Clearance Sale

The Most Successful Sale we ever held

PRICES LOWER THAN EVER BEFORE

IN EVERY DEPARTMENT

- | | |
|--|--|
| Men's Clothing reduced 25 to 50 per ct. | Men's Shoes, sale price ... 90c to \$2.65 |
| One lot Men's Suits, sale price ... \$2.90 | Men's Shoes, sale price 50c to \$2.90 |
| One lot Young Men's Suits, sale \$3.75 | Ladies' Suits reduced 25 to 50 per cent |
| Men's Dress Pants at Half Price | Misses Dress Shoes 90c to \$1.25 |
| Malone Mackinaws, your choice \$4.90 | One lot Waists at Half Price |
| Boys Xtragoood Suits reduced 25 per ct. | Gordon Furs reduced 25 per cent |

Annual Clearance of Muslin Und'wr
in the Millinery Department.

EVERY ARTICLE IN THE STORE REDUCED

N. K. WEST, THE QUALITY STORE

NO MORE CATARRH.

The Newlin Drug Co., Has a Guaranteed Cure That Has Stood the Test of Time.

Catarrh cures come and catarrh cures go, but HYOMEI continues to cure catarrh and abolish its disgusting symptoms wherever civilization exists.

Every year the already enormous sales of this really scientific cure for catarrh grows greater, and the present year will show all records broken.

If you buy a HYOMEI outfit for \$1 and hide it in a dark cupboard it won't cure your catarrh.

If you breathe it daily as directed it will cure your catarrh or it won't cost you a cent, ask the Newlin Drug Co.

If you have a hard rubber Hyomei inhaler somewhere around the house, get it out and start at once to forever rid yourself of catarrh.

The Newlin Drug Co. will sell you a bottle of HYOMEI (liquid) for only 50 cents; start to breathe it and notice how quickly it clears out the air passages and makes the entire head feel fine.

HYOMEI used regularly will cure catarrh, coughs, colds, bronchitis or sore throat. A complete outfit including a hard rubber pocket inhaler costs \$1.00. No stomach dosing. Just breathe it. It kills the germs, soothes and heals the inflamed membrane.

Dec. 16, 26 Jan 6.

Notice to Creditors.

Notice is hereby given that letters of administration have been issued by the County Court of Union county Oregon, to Angus Shaw upon the estate of Isabella Shaw, deceased, and all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same with proper vouchers to the said administrator at his residence at Summerville, Oregon, within six months from the date of this notice.

Dated this December 30th, A. D. 1910.

ANGUS SHAW, Administrator of the estate of Isabella Shaw, deceased.
Dec. 30, Jan 6, 13, 20, 27.

Announcement.
I have taken the management of the Crystal Cafe again and ask the patronage of my old customers.
H. L. CLARK.

The First Question Asked

—when buying or renting a house, the ONE question of the modern renter or buyer invariably runs this way:

Is the house wired for Electricity?

EVERYBODY has come to realize that electric light is not a luxury they want, but a Necessity they must have.

EASTERN OREGON Light and Power Company



WE DYE ALL THING

LET US DYE FOR YOU. In fact the only way we live is by dyeing. Don't dye yourself. It's better than dyeing yourself.

WE DYE EVERY DAY AND DYE FOR ALL

Our charge for dyeing for you won't be high. A sample job is sufficient. For best dyeing and cleaning have us do it.

ELITE CLEANING & DYE WORKS, Phone Main 64.

THE Royal

Grocery & Bakery

Now ready for business at the old stand, under the management of Herbert Pattison, owing to the withdrawal of Mr. Herman Roesch. I am now ready to serve the public the best I can.

Yours very truly,
HERBERT PATTISON.

Royal Grocery and Bakery

Cinderella Slipper Contest at N. K. West's

The management will award two (2) best reserved seats to each of the first two (2) ladies (over 18 years) apply for a fitting who wear a slipper nearest in size to that worn by dainty

Miss Lillian Goldsmith

Appearing in

"A STUBBORN CINDERELLA"

The musical play of Quality and Merit at the Steward Opera House on Monday, January 9.

Come in and be fitted for size

Contest closes on Monday noon sharp.

Winners to be announced in Monday's issue of the

EVENING OBSERVER.

N K WEST, The Quality Store.

GEORGE PALMER, Pres. F. J. HOLMES, Vice Pres.
W. L. BRENHOLTS, Ass't. Cash. EARL ZUNDEL, 2d Ass't. Cash.
F. L. MEYERS, Cashier.

La Grande National Bank

of La Grande, Oregon

United States Depository

Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits \$200,000.00

DIRECTORS.

GEORGE PALMER, W. L. BRENHOLTS C. C. PENINGTON
W. J. CHURCH F. L. MEYERS W. D. CLEAVER
F. J. HOLMES W. M. PIERCE F. M. BYRIT

With our ample resources and facilities we can render you efficient service and handle your business to your entire satisfaction.