

THE OBSERVER  
BRUCE DENNIS  
Editor and Owner.

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1911 FEBRUARY 1911						
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THE COMMISSION PLAN

In his book, "The American Commonwealth," James Bryce selected municipal government as the weakest spot in the governmental system of the United States. If asked for his opinion today, the eminent British economist would doubtless admit that the introduction of the commission form of government in 96 American cities tends to allay his apprehensions and fortify our stability as a nation.

This widespread resort to the commission plan is not cause for surprise. Washington has been officially governed by three commissioners for some two-score years. It speaks poorly for the average standard of Congressional intelligence that no Congressman during a generation suggested the Washington idea to his home city. But Congressmen are not noted for their altruism, and a direct method of responsible government, combining legislative and executive functions, the separation of which, after the practice of the federal constitution has fostered politics for profit, could hardly be expected to appeal to professional politicians.

It is an interesting sign of the popular trend of opinion that the success of the commission plan in Boston has inspired Buffalo and Baltimore to follow the Boston example and that the movement has extended into 23 states, embracing five cities in Massachusetts.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

FIFTY YEARS OF EXCELLENT SERVICE.

The Portland Oregonian issued a birthday number on its fiftieth anniversary which was last Saturday that is a gem both for typographical appearance and the quality of matter it contained. No such an edition has ever before been printed in the northwest and it is doubtful if it has been su-

passed by any newspaper in the nation.

As we looked at the pictures portraying the first home of the paper, the old hand press, the drum cylinder machine added a little later and then the magnificent equipment possessed today, we could not help but marvel at the progress. H. L. Pittock has lived through it all. His hand has been on the cash drawer and his signature has been on the notes, whichever was necessary. The business management of a great concern like the Oregonian is of the greatest importance. Bright writers frequently are unable to manage the business end, and good business men seldom can write. Mr. Pittock is the business end and for years had with him Mr. Scott, now deceased, as editor, which made an ideal combination for the product of their combined efforts tells the story.

In the birthday number every nook and corner of Oregon was mentioned. Union and Wallowa counties and La Grande fared very well indeed in the large edition and this city feels very grateful to the Oregonian for the mention given.

The speech delivered in the senate by Senator McColloch on Oregon's system is well gotten up. The young senator is clever and bright, but it is plain to be seen that he has been rocked in a Democratic cradle and has the desire for democracy's supremacy foremost in his mind when he eulogizes some things that have happened in Oregon recently.

And still the legislature has the air brakes set. Good. Let no one uncouple the air, for if this is done the legislature is liable to spoil the good work of this session and run away with itself.

Publicity Agent Ashley of Baker contemplates a booster expedition across the continent in an auto telling of Oregon's resources. Here is hoping he will not get a tire punctured.

NEW FIRM IS FORMED

FRANK BOWMAN AND JAMES M. SPENCE UNITE IN BUSINESS.

Real Estate and General Information Bureau to be Maintained.

Joseph, Feb. 6.—Frank Bowman, a well known resident of this city, where he has won the distinction of "doing things" and J. M. Spence, circulation manager of the Evening Observer at La Grande, have formed a company known as Bowman & Co. for the purpose of carrying on a general real estate business in Joseph. Mr. Bowman will be the general manager while Mr. Spence will be the solicitor and information agent. Mr. Bowman, well known with local conditions will devote his entire time to the company's interests. Mr. Spence will have the outside work to do and in this capabilities will carry with him information about Joseph and Wallowa county for free dispensation to those who may desire information.

A bright future is in store for the concern, especially as it is formed at the time that the mine interests are showing themselves to be especially inductive investment at this time.

HEAR PINAFORE  
ONCE MORE

PLEASING PRODUCTION WILL BE GIVEN SATURDAY EVENING.

This Time it Will Appear at the Steward Theatre Here.

Announcement was made today that Pinafore, the pleasing high school production, will be presented Saturday evening at the Steward theatre at popular prices. This will give everyone in the city who has not seen the performance to witness it and there is reason to believe that the Steward will be packed with an overflow audience.

Saturday evening the second production of this piece at the High school auditorium was even better than the first and the players were greeted with a fair sized audience. Special credit is due Mrs. E. O. Silverthorn and several others for the success of Pinafore. Mrs. Maguire, as pianist, rendered excellent service to the cast.

Saturday night there will be new features added to the program.

WILL DINE THIS  
EVENING

BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION TO HAVE A FEED.

Annual Election of Officers Will be a Feature of the Event.

This evening members of the Merchants Protective association will gather around the banquet tables of the Foley hotel and spend a couple of hours eating, smoking and electing new officers. Banquet starts at 7:30.

Everything is running smoothly in the organization and it is in excellent shape. The work for the past year has been satisfactory to the members as near as can be learned and plans are being laid for furthering the detail of the association the coming year.

Joseph J. Carr, the retiring president will preside at the meeting tonight. It is not known whether he will permit his name to go before the assembly for another term or not. In fact the slate, if there is a slate is not known to the public at this time.

BENEFIT NETS GOOD RETURNS.

Elgin Students Put on Fine Exhibition of Comic Comedy.

Elgin, Feb. 6.—(Special)—Last Saturday evening the local high school presented a comedy, "Out for a Good Time" and the benefit netted \$175 to the library fund. Aside from the regular show which was staged in a very creditable manner by all concerned, Elgin's tumblers put on some good work and the evening was a screaming success from start to finish.

WANTED—MEN AND WOMEN:

\$2.50 day and commission guaranteed; experience unnecessary. Also traveling salespeople; good salaries and expenses advanced weekly. Positions permanent. Montana Rooming house. Call room 18.

FOR AGED PEOPLE.

Old Folks Should Be Careful in Their Selection of Remedies for Rheumatism.

We have a remedy that is not only early adapted to the requirements of aged people and persons of weak constitution who suffer from rheumatism or other toxic disorders. We are so certain that it will relieve these complaints and give absolute satisfaction in every particular that we offer it with our personal guarantee that it shall cost the user nothing if it fails to subvert our claims. This remedy is called Rexall Ointment.

Rexall Ointment have a soothing, healing, strengthening, tonic and regulative action upon the bowels. They remove all irritation, dryness, soreness and weakness. They restore the bowels and associate organs to more vigorous and healthy activity. They are eaten like candy, may be taken at any time without inconvenience, do not cause any griping, nausea, diarrhoea, excessive mucus, flatulency or other disagreeable effects. Price 25c and 50c. Sold only at our stores. The Rexall Store, Hill's Drug Store.

More New Party Dresses

Our Second Shipment of Party and Evening Gowns just arrived and are now on display in the Ladies' Suit Department and in our Windows.

This makes our line more complete than ever before.

Such a a showing of stylish gowns is seldom shown outside the large city stores.

<b>New</b> White Waistings Apron Gingham Lawns Draperies Dimities Muslins	<b>Just Arrived</b> in men's department Gilt Shoes Manhattan Shirts Gornon Hats Keiser Neckwear	<b>UTZ &amp; DUNNIS</b> complete spring line of Shoes and Oxfords just received Fox Slippers, for evening wear now on display
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N. K. WEST  
THE QUALITY STORE

A NEW STAR

always arouses great interest, but no more than is aroused by the stationery sale now going on at the Wright Drug Co. If you need anything in the way of writing material you should buy this week as all their stationery is marked down to practically wholesale prices. This line of popular fiction and late magazines is as complete as any in the city.

Wright Drug Comp'ny

Classified Advertising

CITY S CAVANGER—Joseph Turnbull, city scavenger. Anyone wanting my service call up City Recorder's office.

Read in February Sunset Magazine, San Diego—the city of dreams come true. Beautifully illustrated in four colors. Tetrazzini singing in the streets of San Francisco Christmas Eve. Now on sale. All News Stands, 15 cents.



TRY ONE

of our 31-2 pound Sacks. Use it according to directions and after you have used it all if not perfectly satisfactory in every way return the empty sack and get your money back.

Pattison Bros.  
Use either phone

JUST Received

Car Load of Wall Paper latest designs Drop in and look over the lot.

GIUGSTON AND NUTTER

Why pay Rent? We loan money to build, and you pay us as you would rent.  
J. R. OLIVER

TO OUR CUSTOMERS

There Are Many of You That we appreciate your patronage, your loyalty and steadfastness, fully as much as you appreciate the help we have at times been able to furnish you, goes without saying.

HOWEVER, we want to take this public method of thanking you for past patronage and with full confidence that this patronage will continue, we pledge you our best endeavors for the future as you have had them in the past.

Wishing you an increased measure of Happiness and Prosperity for the year 1911, we are Sincerely yours,

The United States National Bank, LA GRANDE, OREGON

Fresh Vegetables and Fruits

- Oranges, dozen ..... 40-50c
- Lemons ..... 35c
- Apples, box ..... 75c
- Bananas ..... 40c
- Fresh Coconut, each ..... 15c
- Cranberries, per lb. .... 15c
- Cabbages, per lb. .... 4c
- Carrots, per lb. .... 2c
- Turnips, per lb. .... 3c
- H. H. Lettuce bunch ..... 1
- Onions, per lb. .... 2 1-2c
- Garlic, per lb. .... 15c

Royal Grocery  
H. Pattison, Prop.

THE OFFICERS

of this bank will be pleased to talk with you at any time concerning mutual business relations

WHEN the Federal Government, the county, the city, and a large and growing list of commercial and private depositors entrust their funds to this institution to the extent of \$800,000.00, you may be sure that it is a safe one for you to identify yourself with.

GALL AND TALK IT OVER WITH US  
La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON.

CAPITAL ..... \$ 100,000.00  
SURPLUS ..... 100,000.00  
RESOURCES ..... 1,125,000.00

UNITED STATES DEPOSITORY

George Palmer, Pres. Fred J. Holmes, Vice Pres.  
F. L. Meyers, Cashier Earl Zundel, Ass't. Cashier