

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 non de plume. Signed articles will be revised subject to the discretion of the editor. Please sign your articles and save disappointment.

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THE LOCAL PROBLEM

Increased interest is shown in a Commercial club for La Grande and there is no longer that such an organization is wanted by the people, the only question now being what support will be given it. Apparently there is no disposition to enter the caravan of extensive boomers which has been traversing the country for a number of years proclaiming the virtues of the Northwest with the hope of selling something to the people of the East. No, La Grande is not in that kind of a game at present. What the people do want here is more in line with the Denver idea. You never see Denver played up in Magazines or colored literature for the people there believe they can accomplish more by working inside the city limits—

its—actually doing things of a permanent civic nature that will not only attract attention but be of benefit to everyone who chooses Denver for a home and a place to do business. La Grande wants more enterprises. There is room for more pay roll institutions and with proper effort they can be obtained.

With this idea in mind the Commercial club will doubtless be re-organized along local lines—to increase the local business and beautify a little city that stands at the head of Eastern Oregon municipalities at the present time.

ENTIRELY TOO MUCH LAWYER

There were 15 lawyers out of the 30 members of the Oregon State Senate and there were 11 lawyers in the House, remarks the Telegram. This was at least 25 more lawyers than the people should have elected. Lawyers doubtless have their uses, but the public does not usually find them the right material in a legislature. They must have clients, otherwise they could not exist; they must have fees, otherwise they couldn't live. The clients which many of them have in the legislature are not the people who honored them, but private or corporate interests. A lawyer's fee covers a multitude of sins. In a legislature, if accepted by a layman, it would often be called a bribe, while in the case of a lawyer it is a fee from a client.

In public affairs, the lawyer is not reaching high grounds; he is not justifying his existence or meriting the esteem in which the public has generally held him. Given a public trust, he too often represents an inimical private interest. This the public is beginning to find out. It is getting wary and mistrustful of the lawyer. It does not expect him to represent the public interests when elected. There are honorable exceptions, of course, but they are too few and far between. There is one way the public can get ahead of the lawyer, and that is to refuse to elect him to a legislative office. This way should be tried. When the lawyer begins to feel the same sense of official responsibility as the ordinary citizen, he may be given another trial, but in the meantime, as a rule, he should be relegated to the shelf.

NOT A SAINT BUT HUMAN

To the weakness of human nature, perhaps, may be attributed the fact that people are more likely to admire a brilliant failure than a solid, substantial success.

And to this, also, may be attributed the additional fact that, of all the heroes of the revolutionary period, posterity has been inclined to dwarf the stature of Washington.

Doubtful it is, nevertheless, if another of the great figures of anything like recent history stands out with such a record of unvarying success as that which was attained by "the father of his country." Virtually, he was one of the exceedingly small minority of men who never failed. All that he did bore evidence to his sound judgment and virility of mind.

For a time his biographers tried to transform him into a saint. Obviously impossible, this, because, above all things else, he was a man among men, a figure in his time which, so

far as obtained to his personality, was not unlike that of the late King Edward of England—prone to human weaknesses, but at the same time a gentleman of rare tact and dignity. The comparison may not be entirely inapt, because Edward was never tried as was Washington.

After it became apparent that Washington was not a saint, the trend of opinion was to consider him a respectable numskull, a creature of circumstances, who managed by luck never to do the wrong thing. At the same time, men who, in his day, took minor parts were exalted into heroes of the first rank, largely because of their fondness for epigram and that further weakness of the general public, which would rather scent out a hero of its own than acknowledge to the greatness of the obvious outstanding figure.

All of which would indicate that the time has about arrived when Washington should be rescued from his biographers.

THAT HUNTLEY PROJECT

Statistics are usually dry reading, but a recent census of crop results on the Huntley irrigation project in Montana for 1910 is exceedingly interesting to those who have been watching the development of the west.

It was on May 21, 1907, that the project of 30,000 acres, was formally organized. Since that time the farmers and their families have settled on the land, four towns have been established, and ten school houses have been erected.

Farmers are not prone to boast of their successes and it is usually difficult to secure statements from them of crop yields. The project engineers who sent out requests to the settlers on the Huntley project for crop returns received 283 replies covering an area of about 7,500 acres.

A compilation of these reports show crop yields for 1910 valued at more than \$183,265 or an average of \$25 per acre exclusive of revenue from dairy or poultry products or increase and sales of live stock. It is probable that the gross returns from all sources averaged more than \$30 per acre.

These returns are remarkable in view of the conditions on the Huntley project. The lands in 1907 were absolutely virgin desert. Untouched by plow, unbleached by rain, they were most unpromising. A large percentage of homeseekers proved to be men without experience in farming and totally unfamiliar with irrigation.

It has therefore been a matter of exceeding gratification to the Reclamation Service that the number of actual failures has been really negligible.

LAMPS IN NOVA SCOTIA

Throughout the Province of Nova Scotia there is still a considerable demand for lamps. In more populated districts electricity is generally used for lighting but many city households maintain lamps for emergency purposes. In nearly all the farmhouses the oil lamp is the only means of illumination, and indications are that it will be for some time to come.

Sales are effected by the local dealers by attractive window displays and by traveling salesmen covering the Province. The cheaper glass stand lamps are made by Canadian firms, but the American manufacturers monopolize the trade in brass and fancy lamps, few of which are imported from Europe.

Local requirements do not call for lamps with different features than those used for the same purpose in the United States. Due to the long distance which the goods must travel, care of course must be given to packing these fragile articles. American firms manufacturing lamps having in view a saving in consumption of fuel, a more powerful light, and other economical qualifications, would undoubtedly find it profitable to endeavor to extend their trade to this district.

It would seem that Pendleton's bunch is almost sure of every move. The big hurrah of the governor when he rejected the Bowerman site for the branch asylum looked at first like something might be changed. But Furnish and the other Pendleton crowd handle 'em regardless of party, creed or previous condition of servitude.

Portland claims she is getting too many people mobilized there who have no money and urges Eastern Oregon

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to make a bid for that class. But Portland has told them to come, and she should not turn her own guests away.

Today is the day to remember Washington's truthfulness, and compare it with the Oregon legislation and gubernatorial administration.

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Wood Notice
Notice is hereby given that the District School Board of School District No. One of Union county, Oregon, will receive up to 4 o'clock p. m. of March 3rd, 1911, sealed bids for furnishing said school District No. One with cords of four foot, split, yellow pine and red fir wood, said wood to be cut white green and not later than June 1st, 1911, free from large knots and acceptable to said school board. Said wood to be delivered 300 cords at high school building, and 100 cords at the Fourth ward school and to be corded up neatly and closely where directed by Board.

100 cords to be delivered by July 1st, and all on or before Sept. 1, 1911. Bids to be left with school clerk. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

ARTHUR C. WILLIAMS,
School Clerk.
Feb. 15 to Mch 3

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY.

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.
N. MOLITOR, M. D.—Physician and Surgeon. Corner Adams Ave. and Depot street. Office, Main 63; Residence 69.

C. H. UPTON, Ph. G. M. D.—Physician and surgeon. Special attention to Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat. Office in La Grande National Bank Building. Phone: Office Main 2, Residence Main 32.

A. L. RICHARDSON, M. D.
J. W. LOUGHLIN, M. D.

Drs. Richardson & Loughlin, Physicians and Surgeons, Office Hours—9 to 11; 2 to 5; 7 to 8. Phone—Office Black 1362; Ind. 353. Dr. Richardson's Res.—Main 55; Ind. 312. Dr. Loughlin's Res.—Main 757; Ind. 1297.

GEO. W. ZIMMERMAN—Osteopath. Physician. Sommer Bldg., Rooms 7, 8, 9 and 10. Phone: Home 1332 Pacific, Main 63, Residence phone Black 951. Successor to Dr. C. E. Moore.

DR. M. P. MENDELSON—Doctor of Optics. Spectacles and Eye Glasses Fitted and made to order. All errors of Refraction Corrected. 1105 Adams Ave. Foley Hotel Bldg. La Grande, Oregon.

DR. H. L. UNDERWOOD and DR. DORA J. UNDERWOOD—Office over Wright Drug store. Special attention paid to diseases and surgery of the eye. Phone—Office—Main 22; residence, Main 728.

J. C. PRICE, D. M. D.—Dentist. Room 23, La Grande National Bank Building. Phone Black 399.

DR. R. L. LINCOLN, DENTIST—First class services given. Office over Lilly's Hdw. store. Phone Black-451.

DR. P. A. CHARLTON, Veterinary Surgeon. Office at Hill's Drug Store La Grande. Residence phone, Res 701; Office phone, Black 1361; Independent phone 53; Both phones at

ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

COCHRAN & COCHRAN—Attorneys: Chas. E. Cochran and Geo. T. Cochran. La Grande National Bank Bldg., La Grande, Oregon.

T. H. CRAWFORD—Attorney at Law. Practices in all the courts of the State and United States. Office in La Grande National Bank Bldg., La Grande, Oregon.

D. W. C. NELSON—Mining Engineer. Baker City, Oregon.

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