

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.

1911 MARCH 1911  
S M T W T F S  
1 2 3 4  
5 6 7 8 9 10 11  
12 13 14 15 16 17 18  
19 20 21 22 23 24 25  
26 27 28 29 30 31

WORTHY LA GRANDE MAN CHOSEN

Sherwood Williams, a worthy La Grande man, has been chosen secretary of the grievance committee to adjust differences between local fruit growers organizations and the main organization of the Pacific coast. At first glance the laymen might not understand the remarkable importance of such a position, but a little study will disclose what troubles are constantly coming up between local growers of the Northwest and the main body.

Shipping is one of the bones of contention and quite the small fruitman imagines he is being discriminated against and sometimes he is really suffering that discrimination. It will be the duty of Mr. Williams to maintain an office here and to take up all complaints looking into the merits of each. This places the city of La Grande again at the front and it will be on the lips of every fruit grower in the country. Already La Grande is the head of the Farmers Union in Oregon and some of her citizens are holding responsible positions in that order.

BORAH WILL WIN.

It is gratifying to note that a western senator is at the head of the direct election of senator's fight. Yes, he lost the fight this time but only by a small margin and the next time the great question comes up Borah and his followers will win.

Admitting that the direct election of senators as now practiced by a few states is not wholly satisfactory, it remains a matter of common knowledge that the old system of electing a senator in the legislature will no longer satisfy. Look at Colorado this year. Death caused a vacancy in the senate and the legislature of that state has been in turmoil and war ever since the beginning in an en-

deavor to choose a man for the place. No, the people will never stand the old-time scramble of men for senatorial positions. That day has passed never to return and the sooner the national congress accepts Borah's ideas in this matter, the sooner the that body.

Senator Borah is not a product of the direct senatorial election, and it is surprising to know he should lead the fight on this popular issue when Oregon has two senators who are holding their seats by direct vote of the people. But there is a difference in men and in course of time Oregon may be fortunate enough to choose a Borah. At any rate this state will never give up the direct choice for senator and return to the legislature for the election of senators.

The strike in Chicago has caused newspapers of that city to issue four pages. This may be a good thing for the city daily paper has for years prided itself in the large quantity of paper run through the presses for each edition. Many believe the time is near at hand when the size of the papers will be reduced and the present strike may show the benefit of such reduction.

Stage profanity is to be barred, if New York aldermen have their way. The stage has long had license possessed by no other institutions. People go to a comic opera and witness the women in tights when if they would appear in that attire any place else in the world public morals would be shocked.

The hobble-skirt is to give way to the "four quartered" garment. But come to think of the hobble, it did first straight in exhibiting the "four" quarters.

It took a long time to get Abe Reuf in jail, but he is finally behind the bars. Listen for the pardon petition soon to be started.

WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH THE WEST?

William Allen White, the gifted editor of the Emporia, Kans., Gazette, focused attention upon his state several years ago by asking the question: "What is the Matter with Kansas?"

The interrogation touched a responsive chord in the conscience of the decent citizenship of the great mid-western commonwealth and aroused its militant manhood to a realization of the low estate toward which Kansas was drifting in the hands of reactionaries who were shaping its destinies.

The slogan "What's the Matter With Kansas" became a shibboleth for civic decency the country over and gave impetus to a moral wave which has since swept every state in the Union and shaken the pillars of every venal political machine between the Atlantic and the Pacific sea-boards. Those who have been watching the economic development of the great agricultural producing states between the Ohio river and the foothills of the Rockies are now prompted to ask, "What is the Matter with the West?"

With a climate and a soil admirably adapted to the profitable cultivation of flax, it is significant of the

neglect of its opportunities that the mill owners of Minneapolis within the last two weeks have been forced to contract for 400,000 bushels of Argentine flax seed in order to keep their plants going during the coming year. It will cost 40 cents a bushel in freight charges to bring this flax seed the 4,000 miles from the place where it is grown to Minneapolis. Under any economical conditions imagined this would give the American farmer a tremendous advantage over his South American competitor in the domestic markets, could he meet the steadily enlarging demand for this product, which is becoming daily more and more an indispensable staple of every day life. With the assurance that this demand will continue apace with the development of the American linen industry, to which the introduction of the Oxford processes have given such vitality of late years because of their ability to do takes twenty to thirty weeks to achieve in from one to two days what abroad and that there is a certain market for every pound of flax fibre raised on our own farms, it is incredible that our farmers should show a lack of ordinary business acumen as that they exhibit in their failure to capitalize the opportunity that is literally knocking at their door.

Fancy the cotton growers of the south, who today raise approximately \$50,000,000 worth of the world's total output of the commodity, turning their attention to less lucrative things and placing the textile mills of New England in the position of being obliged to go to Egypt or India for the material with which to supply their looms. In effect this is precisely the position of the western farmer, who passes up the enterprising Argentine agriculturist contracts which should and could be filled better and more economically at home if the Western Solon of the soil showed a keener appreciation of the possibilities of his farm than he appears to have at this time.

With millions of acres of fertile land available for flax raising the mill owners of the United States should never have to go beyond our own border for one pound of it. Moreover we should be able to furnish the rest of the universe with a large portion of what it consumes in the way of flax. But singular though it seems, we don't. Hence the question "What is the Matter With the West?"

"THIS IS MY GIRD BIRTHDAY"

Henry Marion Howe.  
Henry Marion Howe, the distinguished metallurgist whom Oxford university in England has decided to honor with a degree, was born in Boston March 2, 1848, the son of the late Julia Ward Howe. He graduated from Harvard in 1869 and from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1871, taking his course in mining and metallurgy. For some years after leaving college he was engaged in the Bessemer process of steel manufacture in Troy, N. Y. Later he devoted himself to the investigation of copper mines in Canada and in Chili, after which he was appointed to a lectureship in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Professor Howe made this lectureship so important and invested it with so exceptional an expansion of knowledge and scientific inquiry that it attracted the attention of scientists in both America and Europe, and led to his appointment, in 1897, to his present position as head of the Columbia school of Mines.

"THIS DATE IN HISTORY."

- March 2  
1776—Congress appointed Silas Deane of Connecticut Commissioner to France.  
1791—John Wesley, the famous Methodist preacher and missionary, died in London. Born in Lincolnshire, June 28, 1708.  
1836—Texas proclaimed her independence of Mexico and adopted a Republican form of government.  
1848—Louis Philippe fled from France to England.  
1853—Washington Territory created out of the northern part of Oregon.  
1868—Articles of impeachment of President Johnson adopted by the House of Representatives.  
1867—Congress passed the Military Reconstruction bill.  
1875—C. W. Wadsworth, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., patented the watch case spring.  
1889—The Dominion Parliament rejected a resolution providing for

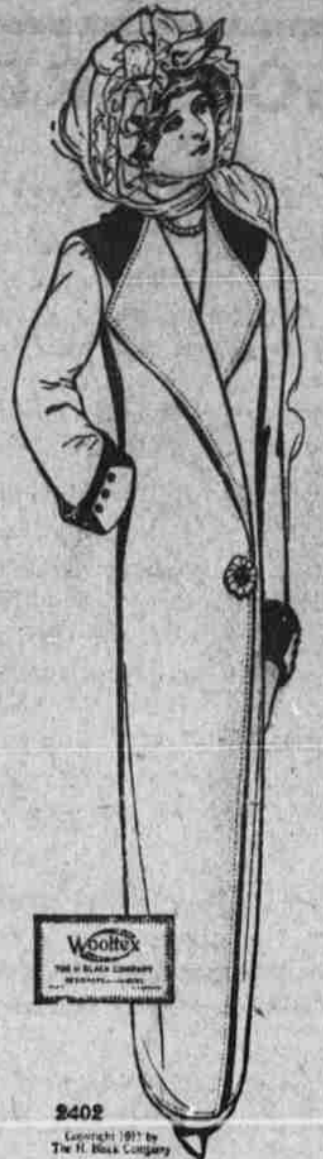
Arrival of  
Wooltex Spring Suits and Coats



I'VE just finished unpacking some elegant new Wooltex Coats and Suits.

There are styles, sizes and colors

in the newest fabrics to meet the approval of women of widely different tastes. All have the Wooltex label, which is your absolute guarantee of two seasons of satisfactory service .... Make your selection now, and secure exactly the garment your figure and general appearance requires



MUSLIN UNDERWEAR SALE  
THIS WEEK ONLY

Don't miss this opportunity to save on all kinds of muslin underwear.

N. K. WEST, THE QUALITY STORE

closer trade relations with the United States.

Flies Cured in 6 to 14 Days  
PAZO OINTMENT is guaranteed to cure any case of Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Flies in 6 to 14 days or money refunded. 50c.

\$3.00  
Oil Painting  
for  
49c

See the lighting artist in our window, 9 to 11 a. m., 2 to 5 p. m.

N. K. West  
The Quality Store

Classified Advertising

CITY SCAVANGER—Joseph Turnbull, city scavenger. Anyone wanting my services call up City Recorder's office.

FOR RENT—Furnished and light

housekeeping rooms, Mrs. E. C. Moore 1617—Fourth street.

FOR RENT—Furnished rooms for light housekeeping. Inquire at Kings Cigar factory.

WANTED—Bookkeeping or Stenography work in the evening, by a young man employed during the day. Box 804, City.

WANTED—Agents to sell the Hydro Carbon reading lamp. For particulars call at the Oregon Hotel, 10 Depot street.

WANTED—Girl for general housework. Inquire at U. S. National bank.

LOST—Gold watch, Masonic key-stone fob, Elgin make, initials H. D. B. on back. Finder return to this office and receive reward.

California Family Wines

Tokay, Sherry, Port, Angelica Sweet Muscat

\$1.50

PER GALLON

JULIUS FISHER  
221 FIR STREET

Going to Build?

COME TO OUR OFFICE AND SEE DESIGNS BY THE BEST ARCHITECTS OF OVER ONE THOUSAND HOUSES RANGING IN PRICE FROM \$400.00 TO \$25,000. THESE DESIGNS SHOW CUT OF COMPLETED HOUSE ALSO ARRANGEMENT OF ROOMS AND ESTIMATED COST OF MATERIAL AND LABOR FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL HOUSE. LADIES ESPECIALLY INVITED.

WENAH LUMBER CO.  
GREENWOOD & MADISON

Home Phone 421. Bell Phone, Main 732

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, 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