

THE OBSERVER

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Editor and Owner.

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A BIG DEAL CLOSED.

La Grande is to be freed from a dual telephone system, which by the way is the most recent double tax that can be imposed upon any community. This was brought about by S. D. Crowe, manager of Home Independent Telephone company, which concern takes over all the Bell property in Union and Wallowa counties, except the long distance trunk toll line.

It means that La Grande people will no longer be forced to hire two telephones—that service will be improved and general improvement will be made on the physical plant.

A telephone system is a natural monopoly and instead of granting second franchises authorities should so regulate one system that it will not be brutal in its treatment of the public and then discourage any second concern.

The deal just closed represents a large amount of capital; it is one of the few instances upon record where the Bell company sells its exchange and business and quits a field. For the Bell company has ever been buyers instead of sellers. To the credit of S. D. Crowe, be it said, a deal has been consummated through his efforts that has been tried in many cities of the United States and failed. He has been pitted against the best legal talent in the nation employed by the Bell company and the contract entered into has been picked to pieces many times. Mr. Crowe has stood for one proposition and one only, which he finally got, and as a result this city will be rid of a second system, for which the people are truly glad.

HOW THEY DID IT.

The letter of Greene & Sawyer of Hardscrabble orchards, telling of the value of Imbler fruit is a statement of fact from men who represent the ordinary fruitland buyers. They were not past masters in the art of fruit culture.

But they came into the Grande Ronde valley to view the situation. They stayed longer than at first was intended because they became interested. To be sure they were right in their conclusion they visited other fruit sections where land prices were two and three times as high as prevailed here. Every comparison when drawn to focus, showed their first im-

pression to be correct, namely that land here was exceedingly low in price when its production was considered.

They purchased an orchard tract and called it "Hardscrabble" just for the novelty of the name. These men stuck close to business and gave it their time and attention to be sure but they already have been handsomely rewarded and the earning power of their orchard has not yet fully come into its own.

It is well for every man looking for a home and to place to make a comfortable fortune to read the Greene & Sawyer letter.

SCOUT REVIEWS
REALTY

ZIMMERLE TELLS OF PLANS AT COVE.

Union Paper Reviews Realty Situation in Union County.

(Union Scout.)

D. Zimmerle, manager of the Grande Ronde Orchard company, was in Union Saturday. This company has headquarters at Seattle and is going at the orchard business on a big scale. When the ground is all set to commercial orchards it will be put on the market in small tracts and sold to actual settlers. This land includes about four hundred acres of the finest land in the valley and especially adapted to fruit growing. The agents of the company ransacked the northwest and considered this locality the best of all for their purpose. The soil is black and rich, well watered and the locality close to the railroad. The manager says that another five years will demonstrate what such land will do, also that extensive farming is just beginning in this valley.

Land that could be bought at \$40 per acre near Union ten years ago is now hard to find at \$125. That means the bare land. Land planted to orchard will not sell at less than \$500 per acre and the price still going up. Where the top price is to be is hard to say. Ground that yields from \$250 to \$500 per acre each year is very valuable. The owner of that kind of land is in no hurry to let it go.

Last week's papers were filled with the glowing account of a tract of ground at Summerville that sold for \$550 per acre. Six years ago the same land was sold for \$65 per acre. The buyers are not sorry for the deal. Someone must be making money on Grande Ronde valley land. No doubt it has cost a hundred dollars an acre to put the land up to its present price. The balance represents the profit on the deal.

So far this has been an ideal spring. The winter was steady but not severe. The snow in the mountains will furnish sufficient moisture for an abundant crop. But that is not new for the Grande Ronde. In fact, quite the opposite.

The poultry and dairy business still yield large profits to small farmers. Outside of the fruit growing business nothing will beat them for quick returns. A five acre patch of ground well managed and properly stocked with poultry and cows is a business of itself.

STATE AIDS IN
MAN HUNT

GOVERNOR HELPS TO AVENGE
DEATH OF PORTLAND GIRL.

With Reward Aggregating Two Thousand Clues Are Still Missing.

Salem, March 18.—Governor Oswald West today offered a reward of \$1,000 for the capture of the man who murdered Barbara Holtzman, a girl of five years, in Portland this week. This makes a total of \$2,000 out for the recovery of the fiend but no clue has been unearthed.

The crime was the most atrocious coming to the attention of the police in years and no effort is being spared to run the man down.

JOHNSON SERIOUSLY ILL.

Mayor of Cleveland Sinking Rapidly as Relapse Comes.

Cleveland, March 18.—Tom Johnson, former mayor of Cleveland, and sick for several months, had a relapse and his condition is critical this afternoon. His family arrived today from New York.



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in Pattern Hats

Tailored Hats

Street Hats

Watch for Wests Great Bargain Sale

of Morgan Department Store entire stock

It will be the greatest by far than all sales held in La Grande combined.

\$60,000.00 Stock of High Quality New Merchandise at sacrifice Bankrupt prices Look for the big Posers announcing opening date.

N. K. WEST Assingee of Morgan
Department Store

Denby-Thurber Wedding.

Detroit, Mich., March 18.—The marriage of Miss Marion Thurber, daughter of the late Henry T. Thurber, who was secretary to President Cleveland, and ex-Congressman Edwin Denby of the First Michigan district, was quietly celebrated in this city today. The couple will spend their honeymoon in Europe.

There are 21 union of the allied printing trades in New York city, with a total membership of more than 25,000.

Classified
Advertising

FOR SALE—130 quarts choice canned fruit including strawberries, peaches, raspberries, blackberries, pears and some plums, also household goods. Call Independent phone 1367.

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.

WANTED—A good woman to do general housework in family of two at Telocast. Good wages. For particulars write to Alice Dupes, Pleasant Valley, Ore.—Henry Henson.

WHITE LEGHORN roosters for sale. Inquire Mrs. W. G. Hunter. Red 691.

FOR SALE—Two good homestead relinquishments in Wallowa county. Inquire of D. Birchoux.

FURNISHED ROOM, bath in connection, hot and cold water, after March 15th. Mrs. Fred Dittbrandt, 701 Washington Street. Bell phone, Red 531.

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

EMPLOYMENT OFFICE—We furnish all kinds of reliable help on short notice. We have them listed in our office. If you are reliable phone us your wants. Wilson & Reed, employ-

ment office in postoffice block.

HAVE nicely furnish room for rent. Modern conveniences. Phone Blk. 822, or call at 1311 O avenue.

TO LOAN—A client will loan \$1,000 at 8 per cent interest, one year or longer, first mortgage farm security. F. S. Ivanhoe.

FOR RENT—Four good rooms, 1505 Madison avenue.

LOST—Jersey cow with bell and halter. Strayed from sugar factory yard. Inform sugar company and receive suitable reward for information

leading to recovery of the animal.

FOR SALE—Eggs for hatching. Barred Plymouth Rocks, R. I. Reds and White Wyandottes, \$1.50. Black Orpingtons, \$2 and \$3 per setting of 15. 3 choice R. I. Red Cockerels. Chas. E. Perry, 1315 Jackson avenue.

FOR SALE—Large brood and work mare. 1315 Jackson Avenue.

For Sale.

A Bean power spraying outfit in good condition at a bargain if taken at once. Inquire of C. O. Ramsey, or

J. B. Stoddard.

FOR SALE OR TRADE—Good timber claim. Address Box 93, La Grande.

FOR RENT—Furnished room for light housekeeping. Clint Van Fleet at Golden Rule.

FOR SALE—At a bargain. One acre tract, six room house, barn and poultry yard; 50 full blood Barred Rocks, 80 fruit trees, also gooseberries, strawberries, etc. Fine place for poultry ranch. Owner leaving valley, must sell at once. TO SEE IS TO BUY. A. L. Rice, Imbler Ore.

Homemakers' Week.



Of Course you are in need of China and Japanese Matting for that back bed room. See what I am offering THIS WEEK ONLY at 25c per yard.

You will need the latest designs and finish in Book Cases. You know Gunn's Sectional Book Cases represent all that is up-to-date in Library Furniture. Call, I'll show you



\$2.50 Golden brown Oak Diner like cut, \$1.90. Can furnish in single panelback Remember that I am showing 20 patterns of diners at reduced prices—from \$4.00 to 75 cents each.

F. D. Haisten,

The Home Furnisher

Watch Our Window
This Week

THE VERY
LATEST IN
SPRING
JEWELRY

A Big Line of
New Hat Pins
\$1 to \$5.50

We can make your
Glasses Fit

SIEGRIST & CO.
Jewelers and Opticians