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LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 1911.

## THE OBSERVER BRUCE DENNIS Editor and Owner.

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#### TOM JOHNSON, A LEADER.

In the death of Tom Johnson the nation lost a leader. He inaugurated reforms in municipal affairs at Cleveland that set the whole nation thinking. While some of them did not prove practical perhaps, yet he was not nearly the failure that corporations as a whole would make the public believe. Cleveland is a better city for having had Tom Johnson. The public has experienced an education period regarding public utilities that might have been delayed for years had not this strong character came to the front and

It is therefore sincerely to be regretted that he was called to his long the struggle which is constantly on between the public service corporations of a municipality and the general public.

When such good ladies as Grandma Braden of Ladd Canyon passes away there is a feeling that the day of the ploneer is numbered. She lived to the splendid age of 91 years, which is a testimonial for Eastern Oregon's good climate and health giving qualities. But her life was one that helped make greatest of all subjects and requires empires. In the solemn moment of thought toward this grand old lady turn to the beautiful poem of Joaquin Miller, "The Greatest Battle That Ever Was Fought." That poem touches the heart in the right place when a strong feminine character is called.



The New York woman who want loosevelt to attend to his own family affairs and let the race suicide question alone, probably each have a poodle dog and a cigarette case. Roosevelt critfeized the fairer sex in many instances when he bluntly told them their failure to perpetuate the race.

The northwest country is not very well represented on committees in the house but there are a lot of energetic Daily, single copy ...... 50 congressmen there from this section Daily, per week, ..... 150 who will insist on being counted when it comes to voting on different measures.

#### Water rent is something always to be remembered and there are about 34 who will likely bear the question in mind in the future. It is a little tough to pay the extra dollar but it is according to the city law and not wholly according to "Hoyt."

### THE ELLIS CONTROVERSY

La Grande, April 11 .- To the Editor of the Observer: Your last night's issue contains a letter from Mr. Ford A. Ellis in which he attempts to reply to my letter in your paper, published some days ago. He is right in assumfearlassly fought the people's battles ing that he is the person at whom my criticisms were aimed, and that the contents of his letter indicate pretty home ere he had further entered into strongly that what I said took effect. It is not a crime to be young or ignorant. But it is an act of impropriety for a boy just out of school, without any special training, to take charge of a Christian congregation as a preach-

er of righteousness. It is wrong for anyone who has never studied theology to attempt to teach theology to others. The science that teaches about God and divine things is theology. That is what all Christian preachers attempt to teach the people. It is the careful preparation by a minister before he is justified in attempting to teach and lead others. Ellis admits that he never studied theology. Hence, he admits his unfitness to occupy the position of minister of religion. have heard members of the denomination to which he was supposed to be

# We are Showing for Easter

Many attractive high quality lines of new Spring mer-

## chandise that will interest you

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