

THE OBSERVER

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THE LATEST WEST NOVELTY.

Less than a year ago a stranger appeared at a lodging house in East Portland and rented a room from the landlady. That worthy woman remarked that his appearance was strange and forbidding, but had no reason to refuse him accommodations and accepted from him the customary rental for a day or two. Next day, noting that her tenant had been gone for several hours, she entered the room, and there, in the bed, carefully covered by the clothing, she found the dead and ravished body of little Barbara Holzman, an innocent child of tender years, who had fallen a victim to the awful lust of a murderous monster, relates the Oregonian.

Last June there lived at Sellwood a family named Hill. One morning curious neighbors, entering the home, found the entire family murdered with an ax, being cut, bruised and mutilated in the most horrible manner. The mother and young daughter had besides been subjected to the unspeakable assaults of the terrible fiend who had evidently exterminated the family in the most dreadful and merciless manner to remove any living witness of his crime.

Now Governor West says there shall be no more hangings in Oregon—not while he is in the executive chair. The governor thinks the state ought not to "kill" the man who kills, and he utters other sentimental gibberish to

justify him in his mistaken course. The state does not kill or murder. It exterminates, and it should exterminate, for its own protection, such miserable wretches as the more or less sane perverts who violated and slew Barbara Holzman and who violated and slew Mrs. Hill and her daughter.

But instead of returning to the vile dirt where they belong, such worse than worthless and more than dangerous creatures as the Holzman and Hill murderers—or was it murderer?—the governor of Oregon conceives it to be his duty to go to the extreme of setting aside the rigorous and just operation of law in order to protract their vicious existences. He would take such disgusting degenerates and put them in a cell at Salem, fattening them with wholesome food, ministering to them when they are sick and offering them on occasion spiritual and other consolation. Why? That they may live as long as possible. Why should they live?

The apologists for the governor defend his "courage" in bluntly stating his views and shaping his course accordingly. It is not courage. It is in part a sophomoric assumption that he knows better about such things than the thoughtful men who have for a hundred years made the laws of civilized states, in part more horrid sentimentalism, and in part a sentimental purpose to do something new and startling in order to keep the executives of the state in the spot light. If the governor has been subjected to the constant attacks of his "perennial critics" it is because he so impudently and systematically departs from the path of quiet wisdom and seasoned experience. The governor's office in Oregon, or anywhere, ought to be something more than a plaything.

The people who would hang nobody for any cause—treason, murder, or rape—and who point out the increasing number of homicides throughout the United States in an effort to show that capital punishment does not decrease the frequency or horror of murder, totally miss the point. Murderers have not increased because murderers are hanged, but because they are not hanged. If judges and juries would do their duty and punishment swift and certain should follow crimes of the blood the hideous crime of murder would be far less common in America.

If the law is not to hang mobs will hang. Let us see the logical and inevitable outcome of this latest novelty in West policies.

ALL CANDIDATE ARE IN.

By the time this issue of the Observer is delivered this evening the time for filing nominating petitions for city offices will have elapsed, and to all appearance at the hour this is written there will be no changes.

This leaves the mayoralty candidates as follows: Will Church and W. S. Wines. The latter represents the socialists of the city, in fact is their nominee and will receive the support of every socialist, in all probability. Mr. Church does not believe in socialism, and will if elected carry out the policy of improvement that has been started and is now well under way.

La Grande is not a socialist community. Not by any means. Perhaps happens every voter in the city recognizes some excellent things in the socialist doctrine, but to accept it as a whole is not an agreeable undertaking, and in the judgment of this paper should not occur.

The contest in La Grande has reached this stage: A vote for Mr. Wines is a vote for socialism, while a vote for Mr. Church is a vote against a socialist administration.

READ THIS ADVICE FROM SANTA CLAUS



Wireless Message Just Received:

CHRISTMAS HEADQUARTERS,
North Pole, Nov. 28th, 1911.

N. K. WEST,
The Useful Gift Store,
La Grande, Ore.

Dear Friend:—

As usual I am sending your store the finest selection of useful Xmas Gifts in my entire line. They will arrive immediately after Thanksgiving and you will find among this elegant assortment something to please every customer. It includes no trash or worthless gifts.

Listen—In one package there is an innovation—something that I have only sent to large city stores heretofore, but I believe your city—and your store are both large enough now to appreciate them.

Yes, there are many gifts for the little ones, too—the kind that last longer and please them more than the frail toys on which so much money has been wasted in the past.

Assuring you that with this grand assortment of Xmas merchandise, your holiday trade will far exceed any past season, I beg to remain,

Yours very truly,

U. G. SANTA CLAUS.

P. S.—U. G. stands for Useful Gifts.

Make Your Gift Something That Is Useful

"They're Always Appreciated More"

WATCH :: OUR :: WINDOWS

Watch . Our . Ads . for . the . New . Stunt

N. K. WEST, The Quality Store

Arcade Theatre

STEAM HEATED BUILDING
FOR THESE FROSTY
NIGHTS.

"A PRISONER OF THE MO-
HICANS"—Pathé. A very in-
teresting western story.

"BEYOND THE LAW"—Vit-
a graph. Western picture. Beau-
tifully picturesque both in story
and natural scenery.

"HOW ALGY CAPTURED A
WILD MAN"—Selig. An unique
comedy founded on the historic
legend of Santa Cruz islands.

MR. BERNIE IN PICTURED
MELODY.

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

What Makes a Strong Bank?

1. **AMPLE RESOURCES**—Our resources are \$1,100,000, composed of well secured loans and cash.

2. **AMPLE CASH RESERVES**—Our cash reserves are usually 26 to 30 per cent of our immediate liabilities (deposits subject to check, and always more than 15 per cent of our total liabilities, the amount required by law.

3. **ADEQUATE CAPITAL**—Our capital is \$100,000.00, and our surplus, which is profits earned and retained as additional capital, is \$105,000.00.

4. **CAPABLE MANAGEMENT**—Ever since its organization 25 years ago, this bank has been under careful management. Its officers and directors are men who have achieved success in the banking and other lines of business. The fact that we have safely weathered every financial storm during our career, and are today greater and stronger than ever is evidence of good management.

If you are not already a depositor or client of this strong and successful bank, become one now. If you are, tell your friends about us.

La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON.

CAPITAL \$ 100,000.00
SURPLUS 105,000.00
RESOURCES 1,100,000.00

Fred J. Holmes, Pres.
L. L. Meyer, Cashier

W. J. Church, Vice Pres.
Earl Zundel, Asst. Cashier

challist administration.

This paper would like for each candidate to address the people of La Grande through its columns and tell them what may be expected in case of his election. The fact that we are opposed to the election of Mr. Wines as mayor does not in any way deprive him of the use of the columns of the Observer to espouse his cause, and every communication will be given proper attention. We do not presume that either candidate would stoop to personalities but to insure safety on this point we want to say that personalities from either side cannot and will not be printed. There is a big public question with Mr. Wines on one side and Mr. Church on the other. A discussion of the question is desired by the people and this paper offers either candidate free use of its columns to enlighten the voters.

The history of "step-children" "Stepmother" is a word with a commonly unsuspected history. Probably most people if called upon to explain it would say that it meant a woman who had stepped into the place of the true mother. Dr. Johnson, at any rate, believed that this was the suggestion of the word to most minds. Really, "step" is the Anglo-Saxon "steop," the original meaning of which appears to have been "orphaned." Stepchild, step-brother, stepson and stepdaughter came first, and then by gradual fading of the etymological meaning of "step" stepfather and stepmother came into being.—London Chronicle.

Japanese Landowners.

A landowner in Japan owns the surface and products of the land only. All minerals under the surface appertain not to him, but to the Japanese government. Moreover, should the government or its nominee wish to extract the minerals lying under a landowner's property the latter, though he would, of course, receive compensation for loss, cannot object on legal ground to the development of these minerals.—British Consular Report.

A Curious Illusion.

People declare that they have seen a field of grass gradually change color during a shower of rain, thousands of mushrooms springing up before their eyes. This is an optical illusion caused by the rain beating down the grass. The mushrooms do not really spring up during a single shower of rain. They are there already, but hidden by the grass, and when the rain beats down the grass it exposes the hidden mushrooms.—London Mail.

Just a Few of Our Bargains:

120 acres in the valley, 7 miles from La Grande, for only \$5,000.00. Just one year's work on this property will double it in value. It is for sale or trade.

40 acres, fair buildings, 30 acres cleared, 5 acres orchard, water for irrigation, 3 miles from town, 1 miles to school. This property can be handled for less than \$60.00 an acre. A small amount of cash, can take city property for balance.

We Handle Property Everywhere and have some Splendid Trades.

We have a hotel to trade for city property. Rent of it pays 10 per cent.

Fine acre tract, good orchard, nice new house, near Palmer mill, cheap and on easy terms.

Nice little home at 704 Main St. Non-resident and will be sold at a very low price.

5 room modern house on Sixth street, furnished or unfurnished. The lot alone is worth the price of the property.

Modern six room house at Sixth and N. Very low price and best of terms.

Small cottage on N Street, splendid location. Can sell on installments.

Fine modern home on N street, close in; small payment will handle it.

Small property on Ninth street, belongs to non-resident and he is very anxious to sell it. Price very low and will take monthly payments.

We have some fine homes and vacant lots in every part of the city.

Business properties that are paying good interest and increasing in value; also money-making business propositions. We can save you money; come in and see us.

SECURITY LAND & TRUST CO.

LA GRANDE NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

OUR FRESH TAFFIES

Are Excellent. We Carry Vanilla

Strawberry and Molasses

THE PALACE of SWEETS SELDERS