

Still Greater Price Reductions At West's 14th Annual Clearance Sale

MANY LINES HAVE BEEN ENTIRELY CLOSED OUT—OTHERS HAVE TAKEN THEIR PLACE AT JUST AS GREAT PRICE SACRIFICES. HUNDREDS OF OTHER ARTICLES HAVE BEEN REDUCED STILL LOWER THAN ADVERTISED DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF THIS GREATEST OF ALL ANNUAL SALES.

SOME OF THE EXTRAORDINARY OFFERINGS

One lot of about 50 Boys' knee pants suits reduced to \$1.98 Values up to \$5.50.	Choice of Men's sweaters and sweater vests, \$1.00 This lot includes values up to \$4.50.	BOYS' SHOES 98c YOUTH'S SHOES 79c LADIES' SHOES 98c LADIES' SLIPPERS 39c
BOYS' HATS 39c	Twenty Young Men's Overcoats, values up to \$12.50. Reduced price \$2.39.	
OUR PRICES ON COTTON PIECE GOODS ARE THE TALK OF THE TOWN		ANNUAL CLEARANCE OF LADIES' AND MISSES' SWEATERS
Amoskeag apron check gingham 5c	Teazledown outings, plain colors 9c	\$.50 to \$1.25 Sweaters 29c
Best 31 inch dress percales 8c	32 inch imported French gingham 12½c	1.50 to 1.75 Sweaters 79c
Reg. 15c Toile du Nord gingham 10c		2.00 to 3.00 Sweaters \$1.29
		3.50 to 4.50 Sweaters 1.98
		5.00 to 9.00 Sweaters 2.98

West's

Every Article in the Store at Reduced Prices
ABSOLUTELY NOTHING RESERVED

West's

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS
Editor and Owner.

Entered at the postoffice at La Grande as second-class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

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Daily, per month 65c

FEW PEOPLE BUT ENORMOUS EXPENSE.

While everyone is proud of the physical things in Oregon, and everyone who is thus proud is anxiously awaiting opportunity to invite people to this state and endeavoring to get them to locate, it must be admitted that Oregon is extravagant as a state almost beyond endurance. Here we have but a handful of people as compared with other commonwealths and yet the state demands vast sums of money.

And there is so little to show for that money it would not be a surprise if the people would arise in their wrath and demand a reckoning long before election day. In fact, if election day were soon to follow the news of the state tax levy the people would vote as they never have voted before in this commonwealth.

But time is a great nurse. It heals

many sores that seem very raw at the beginning. Heretofore the politicians have been able to attract the public's attention at election time to some new fangled mode of government and cause them to forget for the time being the business end of the state. This may occur again, for Oregon is wonderfully prosperous. She has the money to pay the tax and some to spare and so long as money is easy and this remarkable prosperity remains, it may be possible for the smooth tongues of office seekers in state affairs to allay the wrath of the populace and get interest centered in a short ballot or single tax, or some other crazy notion of those who want to ride the wave.

But, hear us, the time will come—whether it be soon or later—when Oregon will come into her own; when she will cease cavorting over a circuitous path that no state ever before trod; when she will begin to figure the situation in dollars and cents and cease to take the glib tongues of men laden with promises only for their guides.

And when that day arrives Oregon will have gone through the sweat, come out of her frenzy and will take her place as a sane, stable state unshaken by any fanciful wave.

MORE BUILDINGS FOR LA GRANDE.

There is probably not a thrifty city in the northwest that is as short on business buildings as is La Grande. During the past few years the population has almost doubled, yet there has been comparatively few business buildings erected. This being true it would seem that nineteen hundred and twelve should be a building year. Last year broke the record in the number of residences erected and the present year should see some modern business structures grace the streets. We understand already there are at least two modern buildings being planned and can see no reason why they will not be good investments. At present business rooms are not obtainable and a few men wanting to embark in business in La Grande must buy some going concern if he gets in.

But it is better to be slightly underbuilt than overbuilt, for we believe nothing shows worse for a city than to have several good buildings representing a large investment of capital standing idle. Although a little short on business property now La Grande in that as in everything else will in the course of due time have all she needs and what she has will be occupied and the investment will be a healthy one.

SOCIALIST RULE IN MILWAUKEE.

As Milwaukee is the stronghold of socialist politics—that is, successful socialism, it is interesting to know how the financial end of that city progressed during the administration. Here is a press dispatch which is worthy of consideration:

Expenditures aggregation \$5,791,122.30 are provided for in the tentative city budget for 1912, which has been completed by the board of estimates of the socialist council. This is an increase of

\$706,503.86 over 1911, which was the largest up to this time. The tax roll now being collected is \$1,000,000 larger than the last year of the previous administration.

Because the time expired before the work could be completed, the budget was submitted by the estimates board in an unfinished form. The board will work in co-operation with the finance committee in attempting to reduce the amounts.

With the January thaw will come another crop of congressional candidates for this district in all probability. But the time is drawing nigh when both state, congressional and county politics should begin to hum. Primaries for nomination are in April this year.

At this particular time the stories of old timers about sleighriding all night over stake and wire fences in the Grande Ronde valley is taken at par and no questions asked.

Guess the rotary plow will have to call on Telocaset this year whether it wanted to or not.

"THIS IS MY 59TH BIRTHDAY."

Samuel Hughes.

Colonel Samuel Hughes, minister of militia in the dominion cabinet, was born in Darlington, Ontario, January 8, 1853, and received his education principally at Toronto university. Col. Hughes has been an enthusiast in matters appertaining to soldiering since he was 14 years of age, when he entered the militia. He declined the position of deputy minister of militia in 1891 and adjutant general for Canada in 1895. He has served as president of the Dominion Rifle association, president of the Stauding Small Arms committee for Canada, and Railway intelligence officer for the headquarters staff. He served during the Boer war of 1899-1900. In 1897 he visited Australia and New Zealand in the interest of the movement for colonial assistance in paper wars. Col. Hughes has been a member of the house of commons since 1892.

Congratulations to:

Queen Helena of Italy, 79 years old today.

A. Augustus Thomas, American playwright, 53 years old today.

William A. Clark, millionaire copper magnate and former senator from Montana, 73 years old today.

Frank Watson Dyson, astronomer royal of Great Britain, 44 years old today.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY.

January 8

1642—Galileo, the astronomer, died. Born in Pisa, Feb. 15, 1564.

1731—First issue of the South Carolina Gazette at Charleston.

1815—Americans under Gen. Andrew Jackson defeated the British under Gen. Pakenham at New Orleans, the last important battle of the War of 1812.

1821—Gen. James Longstreet, noted confederate commander, born in South Carolina. Died near Gainesville, Ga., Jan. 2, 1904.

1824—Wilkie Collins, famous novelist, born in London. Died there, Sept. 23, 1889.

1849—Penny post established in Massachusetts.

1864—Prince Albert Victor (Duke of Clarence) born. Died Jan. 14, 1892.

1895—Royalist outbreak at Honolulu suppressed by the Dole government.

1901—Twenty-six lives lost in an orphan asylum fire in Rochester, N. Y.

Classified Advertising

FOR RENT—Business house corner, 4th and Adams. Owner will remove to San Pedro. Apply Sam H. Harwood. 1-9-11

16 in. wood \$6.00 per cord. Saves you \$1.00. Western Brokerage Co., Phone Black 1241. 1-6-11

FOR SALE CHEAP—Three beautiful rugs nearly new. Western Brokerage Co., Phone Black 1241. 1-6-11

FOR RENT—5 room house close in. Inquire Geddes Bros. 1-6-11

AGENT WANTED—To handle best automobile built in America. Exclusive in this country. Built by old-time manufacturer. Life guarantee. Self starting. Long wheel base. No deposit required. Better dealer now in business but will consider live people who will enter business. This agency includes a complete correspondence sale course. Largest discount ever offered. Deal direct with factory. Address Sales Manager, 696 Washington St., Portland Oregon. 12-30-11

FOR SALE—7 room modern house, 63 1-3 foot front, within four block of business district. Call Red 842 1-2-1mo

FOR SALE. Large solid oak dressers \$10.50; a good range \$12.50; wood heater \$1.50; 4 hole cook stove with reservoir, price \$5.75. Western Brokerage Co., phone Black 1241.

DRINK SAM-O
 America's Best Mineral Water
 It's Good for What Ails You

YOUR ROLL
 will not be shrunk much by buying your rolls of Wall Paper here, and you will be sure of getting the newest designs and best colorings. We have Paper for every room in the house, also (fall) Paper of the prettiest patterns in floral scroll and figure work. We have the best grades at the fairest prices, and respectfully ask you to call and look over our samples.
 B. B. NUTTER,
 Next to Observer Office.

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. W. J. Church, Vice Pres.
 F. L. Meyers, Cashier Earl Zundel, As't. Cashier

After a Cold Auto Ride
 what could be more comforting or exhilarating than a nice cup of Hot Chocolate, which you will always find ready at this season of the year at our Soda counter? We give it to you pure and cheering, full of that goodness and nutriment so peculiar to the best quality of Chocolate. It is a food, drink and medicine all combined, at low cost.

Selder's - La Grande

Arcade Theatre

TO THE PUBLIC.

On account of the snow blockade the management of the Arcade wishes to announce to the public that we expect a complete change of program on the first train this evening, provided they succeed in arriving in La Grande in time. Apologizing for the shortcomings of Dame Nature resulting in more or less disappointments to our patrons we remain,

Yours truly,
MANAGEMENT,
Arcade Theatre.

