

- THE PEOPLE'S STORE -

THIS STORE IS JUST WHAT ITS NAME INDICATES—THE PEOPLE'S STORE. ITS AIM IS TO SUPPLY TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY THEIR DAILY NEEDS IN MERCHANDISE, IN A MANNER THAT WILL ALWAYS BE SATISFACTORY TO THE CUSTOMER TO RENDER YOU ACTUAL SERVICE IN GETTING THOSE THINGS YOU WANT WHEN YOU WANT THEM—TO GIVE YOU THE BENEFIT OF OUR EXPERIENCE IN SELECTING MERCHANDISE THAT IS DEPENDABLE AND CORRECT—TO RENDER YOU A SATISFACTORY, COURTEOUS, APPRECIATIVE SERVICE WITH A FAIR PROFIT ON THE MERCHANDISE WE DISTRIBUTE. WE AIM TO CONDUCT THIS STORE AS YOU WOULD HAVE IT CONDUCTED EVERYTHING PERFECTLY SATISFACTORY TO YOU AND FAIR TO US THE NEW SPRING GOODS ARE ARRIVING DAILY NOW. AS THEY ARRIVE THEY ARE PUT ON DISPLAY. MANY OF THE LATEST ARE NOW AWAITING A VISIT FROM YOU.

Yours Anxious to Serve

THE PEOPLE'S STORE

OPERA HOUSE BLOCK



COAST FIR
is the most adaptable lumber for flooring purposes. Our stock of this useful wood is very full and complete. We also carry pine in very large quantities for siding and outside trim. If you contemplate building either a small or a large house, it will pay you to specify our lumber and be sure of receiving the best free kiln-dried wood.

WENAH LUMBER CO.
Main 732 La Grande, Ore.

'FREE SPEECH' WRITTEN OF

RELATION OF SOCIALISTS TO THE CONSTITUTION SHOWN.

Writer Goes Into Details About Lyceum Bureau in La Grande.

La Grande, March 12.—Editor Observer.—Through the efforts of a friend of mine, a reader of your paper, we have read some clippings therefrom; commenting on the socialist lyceum lecture course, recently held in your city and over the state generally. We note your fair offer to a free discussion of the effect of such apparent radical utterances and we venture this comment.

Free speech is the bulwark of republican institutions. It resolves itself in an analytical consideration of the matter discussed and either makes its own success or defeat. It is supposed that hearers have a common interest and are able to form opinions for their common good.

Socialists and a Constitution.

We venture to say that no one ever heard a socialist deny the necessity for a constitution. That we have no such basis and documentary evidence of government is absurd. What these and all other socialists have asserted is the antiquated makeup of this special and mostly only time honored

document; which is entirely antiquated and inadequate to perform the function of our present progressive form of government.

That it was and still is inadequate is verified by the sixteen amendments that have changed or added to its former makeup.

These amendments have all come about by agitation that has wrought struggles among the people even to the civil war. To make the constitution correspond with the declaration of independence in that "all men were created free and equal," etc., cost the nation thousands of lives and billions in money and property.

Socialists propose nothing but education under the searchlight of intelligent criticism.

Sacred Document.

The constitution was a stolen document imposed upon the people. Its framers slyly imposed themselves upon the people and operated behind closed doors, and to cover their tracks they came within one vote of burning the record of their proceedings. The sacred or immortal document, so much revered by all, is the declaration of independence; of which the constitution is not even an attempt of a reflex. The real spirit of the constitution is the personage of Alexander Hamilton, of aristocratic makeup, who three different times tried to defeat the formation of a republic by giving us a president elected for life. He did finally succeed in his purpose by giving us a supreme court chosen for life that is more autocratic than any European sovereign.

Inefficiency of Present Constitution.

The reason why the present form of the constitution answered for a while the demands of the republic was because of the unexplored and uninhabited interior and faraway parts of the republic, that permitted expansion for the inhabitants and did not force a state of congestion upon society. Our constitution would not have sufficed for the demands of the French republic at its beginning for the reason stated. Our present industrial and social system, taken with the broad-grown its present form until it pressed demands of the people, has outgrown itself a useless appendage to our modern demands for legislation.

Free School Management.

The fact that our free school management is biased and fossilized is one of the greatest reasons why we fall of more practical advancement. Does it not present to the observer that each mind is being warped by a tradition that forbids a free advancement along unexplored lines? Does not the church, the state and predatory interests dominate the public school by their administrative power to the lack of full development and progress? To deny this is to deny social evolution. What gave China her new republic? Not the fossilized teachings of the Manchu dynasty. What has given us every change for the betterment of society? Never the

present ruling administration. Socialists are only asking for fair play and just decisions. The coming generation are fully able to digest the things that present themselves to them or we are disintegrating socially and morally and will eventually become barbarians again.

Primitive Society, Primitive Need.

The service of the supreme court was acceptable to a large degree in our beginning. We were then but a mere handful uninformed disfranchised citizens. Some idea may be formed of our practical ability for self government, when we learn that less than one-third of the soldiers, who fought in the Revolution, which made it possible for a constitution, were not allowed to vote for or against its adoption.

At that time we were without free schools, had little knowledge of printing, limited mail and transportation facilities; had only home manufactories and no telegraph or common means of communication more advanced than the lights in the tower and Paul Revere to ride. Our enemies were either the red skins at our backs or the possibilities of an invasion from over the seas. Each citizen lived in his own immediate environment and the great inter social strife, now going on in society, caused by the present class struggle, was unknown. What interest had the ordinary citizen in the affairs of government, as long as protection was guaranteed from without and their tranquility at home was not molested by the landlord or tax gatherer. Their only care was to avoid being burdened and our burdens today are what is forcing rabid talk about our mistakenly understood sacred institutions.

Socialists and the Flag.

Socialists do not desire the national flag; but they do support an international flag as they are an international party. Does the Observer stand for the original flag without change? Does it not accept of the additional stripes given to it? Does it not believe in free schools, the abolition of chattel slavery, and a thousand and one other improvements given us? If it does—and it does—let it not decry criticism and free speech lest it meet a stealthy foe more deadly than the—his mind—the rantings of a socialist.

The much despised and later honored John Brown of insurrection fame.

was guarded after his capture by the later assassin of President Lincoln, in the personage of John Wilkes Booth. Lincoln's radical teachings have given to us most of our modern laws for society. The Observer would do well to look deep into the future and not be found denying himself the very platform he stands upon.

(Signed) C. W. BARZEE.

Fresh barrels of kraut and dill pickles just opened at Geddes Bros. and for pickling beets, sweet parsnips, solid cabbages, crisp turnips, fresh green onions, lettuce and celery, all the very best phone Main 46.

THOROUGH BRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS
Pullet and Cockerel Matings Utility Matings.
Eggs for sale. For Prices Correspond to
D. B. STODDARD
La Grande, Ore.

THE Gossard CORSETS
"They Live In Front"
Fashion and Comfort Unite In Gossard Corsets
Only in the Gossard Corset can you show a stylish and attractive figure without risking health and comfort. Lacing in front is the secret. Front lacing keeps the line of beauty in the back even and true, and fashion always requires a beautiful back; front lacing give free play to lungs and diaphragm, insuring comfort and ease always; front lacing is common sense—would you lace your shoes in back? The Gossard is \$3.50 to \$8.50. A complete line always on hand.
MRS. ROBT. PATTERSON,
Phone Red 3221 Corsetiere.

80 Per Cent.
Of headaches are caused by eye-strain, due to some error of refraction which we guarantee to

RELIEVE

It will pay you to come in and have your eyes tested and properly fitted by the latest methods and by a state licensed attendant graduate from one of the best recognized colleges in America—the only one in Union or Wallawa counties.
We replace broken lenses in a short time and grind all our own lenses.

J. H. PEARE & SON, La Grande's Leading Jewelers and Optometrists. Opposite U. S. Land Office

SYNOPSIS of the annual statement of the Northwestern Mutual Fire Association of Seattle, in the State of Washington, on the 31st day of December, 1911, made to the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Oregon, pursuant to law:

Capital.	Mutual Income.	Commissions and salaries paid during the year	103,144.15	Amount of unearned premiums on all outstanding risks	189,747.33
Amount of capital paid up.....	Taxes, licenses, and fees paid during the year.....	1,548.25	All other liabilities.....	4,756.47
Premiums received during the year in cash.....	\$478,586.47	Amount of all other expenditures.....	40,596.20	Total liabilities, gross	\$195,492.62
Interest, dividends, and rents received during the year.....	9,289.68	Total expenditures	\$471,918.26	Total insurance in force December 31, 1911	\$44,186,608.00
Income from other sources received during the year.....	6,985.00	Assets.		Total risks written during the year	\$1,747,898.00
Total income	\$494,861.15	Value of stocks and bonds owned.....	\$1,918,745.45	Gross premiums received during the year.....	27,710.19
Disbursements.		Loans on mortgages and collateral, etc.....	54,623.60	Premiums returned during the year.....	1,548.75
Losses paid during the year.....	\$174,071.70	Cash in banks and on hand.....	73,900.60	Losses incurred during the year.....	14,727.76
Dividends paid during the year.....	152,557.96	Premiums in course of collection and in transmission.....	60,001.81	Total amount of risks outstanding in Oregon Dec. 31, 1911	\$1,749,315.00
		Accrued and other assets.....	19,721.30	NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL FIRE ASSOCIATION,	
		Total assets	\$294,087.82	By M. D. L. Rhodes, Secretary.	
		Total assets admitted in Oregon	\$294,087.82	Statutory resident general agent and attorney for service: Jno. A. Carson, Salem, Or.	
		Liabilities.			
		Gross claims for losses unpaid.....	\$ 988.80		

Exceptional Piano Buying Opportunity
Direct From Factory to Home Prices
Will Only Last a Few Days Longer

If every La Grande home only realized the quality of pianos offered at this sale, and the exceptionally low prices and easy terms, no thinking man would permit his home to be without one a single day. We have sold a lot of fine pianos to the best homes in La Grande. We still have left 7 or 8 pianos which we must dispose of this week. We will not ship out a single one, therefore we will quote prices from now on that will open the purse strings of the closest buyers.

Just think of the big retail prices you have been paying for pianos, and here at the **FACTORY TO HOME PIANO SALE** you can buy direct, make the retail profit yourself and secure a fine piano for as low as \$240.00 that sells the world over for \$350.00. Others that small retail dealers ask \$450.00 for, can be secured here for \$305.00, still another fine one at almost half its retail price.

We must close out three of the finest and best player pianos whose Chicago factory prices are \$900.00, and \$1,000.00. These will go this week at \$650 and \$750. \$40 to \$50 worth of music free with each player.

One second hand piano we will close at \$106.00. Come and see it sure.

This **FACTORY TO HOME SALE** means a lot of money saved. It is to your interest to come in and look.

Reed French Piano Mfg. Co.
Open Evenings. Hotel Sommer Sample Room.

Oh, How I Itched!

What long nerve-racking days of constant torture—what sleepless nights of terrible agony—itch—itch—itch, constant itch, until it seemed that I must tear off my very skin—then—
Instant relief—my skin cooled, soothed and healed!

The very first drops of D.D.D. Prescription for Eczema stopped that awful itch instantly; yes, the very moment D.D.D. touched the burning skin the torture ceased. A 5cc bottle proves it.

D.D.D. has been known for years as the only absolutely reliable external remedy, for it washes away the disease germs and leaves the skin as clear and healthy as that of a child.

All other druggists have D.D.D. Prescription—go to them if you can't come to us—but don't accept some big profit substitute.

Yes, if you come to our store, we are so certain that D.D.D. will do for you that we offer you a full size bottle on this guarantee:—If you do not find that it takes away the itch AT ONCE, it costs you not a cent.

French Dry Cleaning
Saves Clothes And MONEY

Few people realize the possibilities of our French Dry Cleaning Process both as the work and as a source of economy. We clean anything in Ladies' or Gents' wearing apparel; also household draperies, etc. This service has a wonderful life restoring effect and makes any article look better and wear longer. We recommend French Dry Cleaning as one of the most effective means of economizing. Our services are the most thorough and satisfactory in the west.

City Dye Works

What would you do without teeth? Would you rather keep the natural teeth or wear artificial work? The natural teeth can be saved for years of usefulness and it is the business of the dentist to do it for you.

J. E. STEVENSON, D. D. S.