

THE OBSERVER

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LA GRANDE AWAY FROM HOME.

When you are traveling any place in the Northwest draw out your fellow passengers as to their opinion of the different towns and cities. Invariably if the party so addressed is familiar with Eastern Oregon and La Grande he will have some good words on the end of his tongue for this city.

It is one of the pleasant things of this life to live in a city that is talked of as a live one; that is mentioned in happy comparison with other cities of similar size and the decision given to La Grande as to future possibilities. The traveling public is very discriminating. Men who travel have no axes to grind. Their verdict is not biased or prejudiced. Usually they have foundation for statements made either for or against a city, and when they will voluntarily state that La Grande has made more substantial improvement than other cities of the same class in the last two years; when they openly assert that they sell more goods than in any similar sized community of the Northwest you may know they mean it.

That is the happy position of La Grande today. She is in the lead—so much so that it is noticeable and talked about. The fact that it is talked about is worth a lot, for that is advertising of the best sort. No individual or community, or business enterprise ever receives complimentary laudation without those remarks spreading. Others take up the theme when the time presents itself and soon the fact is crystallized.

Each resident of La Grande should bear in mind the pleasant feeling that exists toward our city, and with that realization take up the spirit of helping it along. By that we mean every citizen should when opportunity presents mention the many good things here; the great business future, which is a positive certainty, the splendid tone of La Grande as a home city, and in fact, go a little bit out of your way to do the square thing for your community.

PAVEMENTS AND PARKINGS.

La Grande can boast of miles of pavement and more is being laid. Much of this is extending through the residence districts. Here, where the traffic is not so voluminous and where the expense must be considered the pavement is so constructed as to leave 20 feet parkings on each side of the street.

In the demanding activity of commercial life we seldom think of the beautiful or the pleasant, but only the useful and the quick, therefore the bareness of the business streets. But

In the residence sections, those portions of the city where the citizens own their homes, eat, sleep and get what enjoyment from life they can, where the business man or woman leaves the bustle and sternness of the financial game and contentedly responds admit the pleasures "be they ever so humble" of their own home. Here we can consider (and should much more than we do) the esthetic, the beautiful and the pleasing.

Along the many resident avenues that now are, and will be paved, are these parkings. A few with well kept lawns and inviting shade trees lend a home-like appearance to their neighborhood—and radiate their share towards beautifying the city. But most of the parks are unkept, often ungraded, without grass, and with no shade trees. What an improvement to the appearance of La Grande—not to the stranger so much as to the home people, who must daily traverse these same avenues—if they were bordered on both sides by green lawns edged by long rows of trees, all well kept.

We have read of Fairylands like this. We have an opportunity to create one here in La Grande. It will take a start by someone, possibly an agreement by all, and a little helpful work and interest by each to obtain this desired end. Is it not worth the while?

Well, the Bull Moosers are getting more numerous every day. Gradually the facts of the rotten work of the Republican national committee are percolating through the country to the extent that men are taking a decided stand. It is the rank and file of any political party that is honest beyond question and honest men do not like to support by their ballot a dishonest political proceeding when they know it to be dishonest. This sentiment will have a wonderful growth between now and November. It is the old time honored question of right and wrong. Had there been no wrong committed at the Republican national convention there would be no Bull Moose party movement, but the wrong was done and the movement is on with a tremendous force over the entire country.

Secret Account.

Family Physician—The trouble with your husband, madam, is that he has overdrawn his account at the bank of vitality Mrs. Gayman—I felt sure he was deceiving me about something! Doctor, I give you my word I never knew he had any account there.—Exchange.

Making excuses takes time that is better spent in "making good."—Youth's Companion.

Harmonious.

"They say Mrs. Jelliffe has given up her pet white poodle of hers," said Mrs. Johnson. "Yes," said Mrs. Whilliger. "She's in deep mourning for Mr. Jelliffe, you know, so she has exchanged Toby for a black and tan."—Harper's Weekly.

The residents of the city are pleased to hear of the progress of the work.

THE GNU IS A PUZZLE.

It Seems to Be a Cross Between the Horse, Cow and Deer.

Did you ever hear of a horned horse? It is called the gnu and is a native of South Africa. The gnu is a puzzle. We have called it a horse, but it is more like a cow. It really seems to be a cross between the horse, the cow and the deer. It has the head and horns of a cow, the tail, the mane and withers of the horse and the legs of a deer. Altogether the gnu is one of the most singular creatures on earth.

The gnu inhabits the hilly districts of South Africa, roaming all over the country in vast herds. As far as travelers have yet penetrated it is found, and it is fortunate that it is so, for the flesh of the gnu forms excellent food. Gnus are, however, extremely wild and, being very quick in their movements, are difficult to shoot. Upon the first alarm the whole herd scampers away in single file, following a leader. When seen from a distance they look like a troop of horses.

Their speed is very great, and when first disturbed they do not exert it, but kick out their heels and begin butting at anything that comes in their way, exhibiting the greatest fury. Unless hard pressed they seldom show fight, but when brought to bay they will defend themselves desperately. They dart forward upon their enemy with great fury, and unless he remains cool and collected he probably will not escape.

STEALING A RAILROAD.

Not in a Financial Way, but by Carrying It Off Bodily.

No stranger theft was ever committed than the "lifting" of an entire railroad, twelve and one-half miles in length, which once connected Birr and Portumna, in Ireland.

The line had cost \$450,000, and for years it did service for the Great Southern and Western Railway company until the year 1876, when the company, which had been running it at a loss, washed its hands of it. The line was derelict. Nobody wanted it. For a few years it stretched its useless length through north Tipperary. Then its neighbors began to turn covetous eyes on it.

Bolts and screws and other portable trifles began to vanish. A few prosecutions were instituted, but the charges were withdrawn. Nobody seemed to care. The thieves, thus encouraged, grew bolder. Farmers brought their carts and horses and loaded them with spoils of rails, sleepers, switches and semaphores. One goodly station vanished, to its last brick and door, in a single night.

They were great times for Tipperary. Boatloads of booty, hundreds of tons of rails, were sent away from Portumna by unlicensed "contractors," and the work of spoliation went on until not as much as a turntable was left.—Argonaut.

Dickens' Den.

Dickens' care for his material surroundings did not end with his bedroom. His favorite writing place at Gadshill was a Swiss chalet in the shrubbery, and this he fitted up in a most ingenious fashion. "I have put mirrors in the chalet where I write," he says in one of his letters, "and they reflect and refract in all kinds of ways the leaves that are quivering at the windows and the great fields of waving corn and the sail dotted river. My room is up among the branches of the trees, and the birds and the butterflies fly in and out, and the green branches shoot in at the open windows, and the lights and the shadows of the clouds come and go with the rest of the company. The scent of the flowers and indeed of everything that is growing for miles and miles is most delicious."—London Chronicle.

Judging the Colt.

The Arabs have two methods of estimating the height to which a colt will grow, the first being to stretch a cord from the nostril over the ears and down along the neck and compare this measurement with that from the withers to the feet and the other method being to compare the distance between the knee and the withers with that from the knee to the coronet. In the first method it is considered that a colt will grow as much taller as the first measurement exceeds that of the second, and in the second method, if the proportion is as two to one, the horse will grow no taller.

Pedestrians.

A teacher in a primary school was endeavoring to make clear to her class the meaning of the words "equestrianism" and "pedestrianism," when she put this query to one small boy: "What is a pedestrian?" "He is one of those fellows," said the boy, "who makes an awful kick when an automobile runs him down."—New York Press.

No Further Delay.

Abner Sloponk (desperately)—M-may I name the day? Jemima Jones (decisively)—No! Abner Sloponk (in alarm)—Why? Jemima Jones (frankly)—Because if you put it off as long you did your proposal we never will be married. I'll name the day myself.—Cleveland Leader.

All Ready Now
Fall Styles Are
Waiting Your Selection
Every express and every freight is bringing boxes and cases of bright, new, fall merchandise for every department of this great stock.
In The Ladies' Store
New Fall Suits New Long Coats
New Dress Goods New Trimmings
New Silk Dresses New Wool Dresses
In The Men's Store
New Society Brand Fall Suits
New Benjamin Fall Suits
New Gordon Hats New Stetson Hats
New Tilt Shoes New Eagle Caps
We Invite You
to inspect and compare our quality and prices
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N. K. WEST
The Quality Store



The Strength of a Bank
is based on the character of its assets, and of the men behind it.
This bank, for twenty-five years a pillar of strength in this community, keeps its resources absolutely clean and dependable.
Its officers will always see that its assets are of such a character that its strength can never be questioned.
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TEXTILE OWNERS UNDER CHARGES
NUMBER AND IDENTITY IS STILL SECRET.
Indictments Accuse Several of "Planting" Dynamite.
Boston, Aug. 29.—The indictments have been returned by the grand jury today again several prominent textile millmen accusing them of "planting" dynamite during the labor troubles at Lawrence, Mass., several months ago in an alleged attempt to discredit the strikers and turn public feeling against the operatives. The number of indictments is not known. The identity of those indicted is to be kept secret until the arrests are made.
ELGIN BRIDGE NOT OUT.
Travel Not Hampered at Elgin Says Bridge Superintendent Campbell.
While the new bridge is being constructed at Elgin, traffic will not be hampered in any way, says Bridge Superintendent J. F. Campbell in setting to rest the rumor that traffic was clogged there. "We have built a tempo-

Notice to Trespassers.
Hot Lake.—The undersigned hereby positively prohibit any and all persons hunting or shooting on the property known as the Hot Lake marshes or the Grandview Farming company's lands. These fields and pastures are now filled with horses and cattle and the topography of the lands is such that this stock will surely be killed or injured if shooting is permitted. For this reason we are compelled to deny all requests for permits.
(Signed) W. M. PIERCE.
W. G. SAWYER.
S-29-20t
SCHOOLS OPEN SOON.
Teachers to Head La Grandeward During Next Few Days.
Preparatory to the opening of school September 9th, school teachers are returning from vacations and new faces that have been assigned places in the staff will also make their appearance here shortly to become permanently located for the year.

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