

HOMESTEADS ARE POPULAR

BIG INCREASE OVER LAST YEAR
IS SEEN.

In Five Months Increase Is Thirty-
Eight Per Cent.

Since the three-year homestead law became effective, there has been a great increase in number of applications for final proof in the La Grande land office. For five months ending November 30, this year, as compared with the same months last year, there has been an increase of 37 per cent, according to announcements of local officials of the United States land office.

This increase is not alone on the three-year plan but includes both, as either the old or new plan can be elected by the settler.

PERSONALS.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Kivette left today for Boise where Mr. Kivette will transact business matters.

Walter M. Pierce was an incoming passenger this morning on No. 17 from Hot Lake.

Miss Hug, who has been visiting with her sister, Mrs. J. W. Stotts, returned to her home this evening.

Wade Gray of Elgin was in the city a number of days on business and pleasure. He returned to his home this morning.

Vic McDonald, a prominent ranchman of the Wallowa country passed through the county seat on his way home.

Charles Hudson, deputy sheriff of Wallowa county, arrived in the city this morning and will be with us for a number of days.

Rev. Fyke left last night for Boise with his 12-year-old son to consult specialists upon apparently serious diseases in the boy's ear.

B. M. Sherwood, former owner and manager of Sherry's theatre, is in the city after a few weeks' travel on the coast.

G. S. O. Humbert of the Bible school located at Eugene, is in the community in the interests of the school.

Miss Berryman of New York is a guest in the city today with Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Jessel 1504 Second street. She is on her way to San Francisco to spend the winter.

The Hudson brothers of Imbler came to town to see the show last night and incidentally to do some shopping. They returned this morning.

S. A. Scott, who has been visiting his sisters, Mrs. Isabelle Campbell and Gilly Turnbull of this city, returned to his home in Joseph this morning.

Mr. Wise of the local firm of Wise and company, tailors, went to Seattle this morning in the interest of his business. He will be gone several days and his partner will look after the business in his absence.

F. A. Cook, engaged as collector for the Rumely Manufacturing company of La Porte, Ind., went to Elgin this morning on business. He follows the sales agent, C. E. Cole of the same company who is also in the city. Mr. Cook lives in this city and has subscribed to the Observer.

W. J. Spencer of La Grande went to Wallowa this morning bent on hunting geese. His face was radiant in anticipation of the sport and to judge by the keen eye he will bag them if they come within range of his pumpgun.

LET WISE SUIT YOU

That Suit For the Holidays

Have you ordered it yet?

True, we are very busy but we can care for a few more rush orders. and the clothes you get from us are the RIGHT kind; they fit right; look right and wear right.

B. WISE
LADIES'
TAILOR
MEN'S

**LET WISE
SUIT YOU**



Christmas Greetings from Santa Claus

Christmas Greeting from Santa Claus

The Genial Saint Sends a Cheery Message to All Who Seek Appropriate Gifts

Santa Claus Headquarters will be **HERE**—"THE CHRISTMAS STORE"—and we announce that we are splendidly ready to meet every demand that the troubled gift seeker can make upon us. We have purchased an extensive assortment of desirable, serviceable and appropriate gift things, greater than has ever been before assembled in this store. The whole store is full of sensible Christmas gifts at the most attractive prices. And now, as a final word of advice, gained from last year's experience, **SHOP EARLY**. Shop in the morning. Shop when the crowds are smallest, when you can make most satisfactory selections. Remember, this Christmas store is ready to solve your every Christmas problem **TODAY. NOW**. Great stocks of new desirable, giveable gifts makes selections here easy for the troubled gift-seeker. **SHOP EARLY—TODAY. NOW**.

BEFORE

reading this list get your pencil and paper and jot down the items that will be the most appropriate. You will find plenty of them here.

Whip Cord Dress Pattern
Silk Dress Pattern.
Silk Waist Pattern
Table Linens
Linen Napkins
Children's Dresses
Silk Petticoats
Silk Princess Slips
Fur Sets
Children's Furs
Women's Suits
Women's Coats
Linen Drawn Work
Portieres
Irish Crochet Doilies
Indian Blankets
Bath Robes
Fancy Kimonas
Silk Scarfs
Tailored Waists
Silk Waists
Fancy Slippers
Children's Sweaters
Fancy Knit Hats
Leather Purses
Set of Combs
Leather Hand Bags
Velvet Hand Bags
Pearl Collar Pins
Fancy Collar Pins
Women's Neckwear
Fancy Box Hose
Kid Gloves
Silk Hose
Wool Gloves
Fancy Ribbons

We haven't the space to name all the acceptable articles for useful Christmas gifts shown in this great stock but we can please you in every way and we can save you time and money if you come to this store for your gifts. Quality is the best we can buy and prices the lowest. Come in and look around. You are always welcome. It will be easy for you to shop at this store.

You're Safe in Giving H'dc'h'fs.

Handkerchiefs are such real acceptable gifts you can't possibly go wrong in placing them at the top of your list. These prices, too, ought to be interesting

Fine Lawn Narrow Hemstitched Handkerchiefs 5c and 10c
Pure linen, narrow hemstitched handkerchiefs 12 1-2c, 15c and 25c
Fine Lawn Initial Handkerchiefs, narrow hem 10c and 15c
All pure linen, initial handkerchiefs 15c and 25c
Fancy Embroidered Handkerchiefs, extra good 25c, 35c and 50c
Silk Initial Handkerchiefs 25c and 50c

FREE!! FREE!!

In appreciation of your trade, we will give away our entire line of dolls and toys free with every purchase. The entire stock of dolls and toys have been placed in the balcony. We will issue a ticket with each purchase which will entitle you to your choice of any doll or toy marked at the amount of the tickets you have. These are absolutely free and cost you nothing. Be sure you secure a ticket with each purchase. If in the rush it should be overlooked ask for it. Tickets must all be exchanged for presents by Dec. 25th. You can secure the children's Christmas presents without cost by confining your purchases to this store.

Have You Thought of a Hand Bag?

Every woman wants to have a nice hand bag when out for a stroll. One of our new style fits the bill to a nicety. Put hand bags on your list.

Leather hand bags in large and small shapes. Nickel and gold trimmed 75c to \$6.50
New lot of Velvet hand bags just in. Very fine and stylish. Price 75c to \$3.50
New Gold braided hand bags. You will like these. 75c to \$1.50
If you have lost the coin purse of your hand bag we can supply you with a new one 25c and 50c

Why Not Gloves?

Who wouldn't appreciate a pair of gloves. Especially so when they get a pair that is certain to give entire satisfaction.

Women's Golf Gloves, blue, brown, black and white 50c
Women's Cashmere gloves, silk lined, black and colors 50c
Sternberger & Kalisher Kid gloves, nothing better made. All colors \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75
Long Kid gloves 16 button length, black and colors \$3.00 and \$3.50
Children's Golf Gloves and Mittens, all colors 25c to 75c

Furs Are Always Acceptable

In fact, fur gifts are particularly associated with Christmas gift giving. You can't possibly make a mistake if you give a fur piece or fur set and right at this time our fur stock offers a wide latitude of choice, and values that are not offered elsewhere

Black Fur Sets, large and well made, Set \$6.50, \$10.00, \$15.00 and \$25.00
Gray wolf fur set, extra large and very popular, Set \$25.00
White Fur Set, very popular with everybody. Set \$20.00
Children's Fur Sets at \$1.85 to \$7.50

HERE

is a list of suitable gifts for men, especially arranged to help you make your selection quickly, easily and satisfactorily. Check the items that appeal to you most.

Velour Hats
Leather Slippers
Felt Slippers
New Suit or Overcoat
Rough Neck Sweaters
Bath Robes
Smoking Jackets
Neckties, all kinds
Cuff Buttons
Gold Collar Buttons
Tie Pins
Tie Holders
Silk Garters
Fancy Box Suspenders
Silk Half Hose
Silk Handkerchiefs
Linen Handkerchiefs
Initial Handkerchiefs
Dress Shirts
Kid Gloves
Coin Purses
Mufflers
Box of Collars
Golf Gloves
Leather Suit Case
Leather Hand Bags
Bath Robe Blankets
Diamond Brand Shoes
Royal Tailored Suit;
Plenty of time to get it before Christmas.

Men are harder to buy for than women but we have made it easy for you by showing hundreds of articles for men that will be sure to please him. We will exchange all sized merchandise if you do not get the correct size of a fit. Come in and let us help you to select the right thing for men. Don't be afraid of bothering us with your gift problems. We will be more than glad to help you.

GEIBEL'S

Mrs. J. W. Campbell who underwent a surgical operation in one of the Portland hospitals, returned to her home in Joseph this morning.

Little Miss Grace Rice, who has been attending the Sisters' academy, went to Enterprise, this morning and from there she will go to her home at Innaha.

J. F. Rooney and J. M. Dodson of Syracuse, New York, stopped off in

La Grande for a few days to look over the field. They are on an extended trip of the west and will go to Seattle from here.

L. H. Tucker of Medford, Oregon, who has been visiting his brother, George Tucker of this city and his sister, went to Joseph on the branch this morning to pay further visits to friends and relatives. He states that in his city he roses are in full bloom.

F. E. Fenlon of Boise, who was stopping in this city on business for a number of days, met his family this morning as they passed through on No. 17 and joined them on their way to Portland, where they will make their future home. He reports Boise one of the prettiest cities in the West.

Mrs. Adolph Newlin has just returned from a delightful two weeks'

sojourn with her parents at Herrington, Wash. She reports a jolly good time and little Beulah is of the opinion that grandmother is about as good a cook as mother herself. She has tasted the sweets of a new kind of pie and has had the same introduced in the Newlin home.

Bert Huffman, formerly editor of the East Oregonian, but now a prominent wheat grower, went to Wallowa

this morning to visit friends. Mr. Huffman, besides being a successful grower of wheat is a poet of some note. He has published several volumes of poems. Being a native of this county Union county folks are proud to see him prosper in his new country, where he is rated as a wheat king.