

THE OBSERVER

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EDITOR AND OWNER.

Entered at the postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily, single copy 5c
 Daily, per week 35c
 Daily, per month 65c

THE PRACTICAL VIEW OF THINGS.

While waiting for transcontinental trains Conductor Harry Grady of the Wallowa branch recently talked municipal government to a representative of the Observer, and we were impressed with the clear and concise manner in which he put things.

"It strikes me," said the veteran railroad man, "that the city of La Grande is of sufficient size to need a head. There is lots of business transacted in a year by the municipality. In fact, it is probably the largest single enterprise in the city limits. A corporation whose stock is owned by individuals would from the beginning insist on the greatest economy in operation. This is the cardinal principal of corporation success. But under the present form of city government economy is next to impossible, and this does not mean that I am criticising anyone. For the plan under which we are working will not permit of expert management; will not let any office man give his entire time to the city's business.

"How long would a railroad run under this method before announcement would be made of the appointment of a receiver? It is different with a city. It cannot fail, but it can run fearfully in debt and its paper go below par. Now, there is no use finding fault without one has a remedy for that fault. I agree with a great many that a commission government is the thing, provided the commission government attaches responsibility. In other words, and to make myself plain, let La Grande adopt a charter which will place responsibility on the shoulders of a man hired for the job. If he does not make good, he is 'canned' to use a railroad expression. Under this plan I believe results would be apparent in a very short time."

THE TOURIST TRAVEL.

Perhaps you had almost forgotten that the tourist rates will soon be on for this year; that the stream of people from the east and middle west will again be going through La Grande, and that some of them can be induced to stop here and look over the country with a view to locating.

You must not overlook these tourist campaigns. For if Union and Wallowa counties only succeed in getting ten people to locate the effort has been worth all that it has cost.

It is an oft told story that these two counties present the best inducements in the northwest for the homeseeker, but it is not the less

true in sections where the land has been priced like mining claims containing picture ore, there is a noticeable shrinkage of settlers, but in counties like Union and Wallowa where anyone who will work can make good and provide for old age, the settler is always keen to investigate.

Make it easy for the homeseeker to learn of these counties.

EASTERN OREGON REPRESENTED.

A dispatch from Washington says Congressman-elect Sinnott is making a vigorous kick because the appropriations this session include no point east of St. Johns, which is a suburb of Portland. Sinnott is justified in his kick, for there is a great empire in Oregon that has no recognition of late. Congressman Lafferty evidently thought he was through with this part of the state and did nothing to include any section east of Portland.

But the dispatch further states that Sinnott has his fighting clothes on and that he is making life miserable for the different departments in his endeavor to get recognition for his district. And all of this before he is really a congressman, which goes to show that when he is once officially seated the territory east of Portland will be looked after as it deserves to be.

THE STIGMA ON THE EXCHANGE.

The public is getting next to the Wall street game. In aggregate market value seats on the exchange have dwindled \$52,800,000 since 1900. The figures are secured by comparing the price at which a seat recently sold with what one brought four years ago. The difference is exactly 50 per cent, the latest sale being for \$48,000 just half of the 1900 record price.

The reason for this decrease in the value of stock exchange membership is that the country has awakened to the meaning of Wall street and is avoiding it. Responsible only to itself, yet holding the welfare of millions in the hollow of its hands, it has played fast and loose with the country's finances for years.

Emerson has a theory, stated with masterly clearness in his essay on "Compensation", that every evil automatically brings into being its own cure. It is applicable to Wall street. Abuse of power has caused rebellion on the part of the investing public, that vast flock from which Wall street recruits its "lambs."

The financial revelations of the last few years have not been made in vain. Exploitation of the country's industry on a huge scale has gone too far. The purely speculative element of trading has been allowed too free a rein. Fake sales and bunco have had their day.

The stock exchange either must reform itself or submit to reform from without. It must be incorporated. It must establish and admit some kind of responsibility with the country at large. Otherwise the moving finger of public opinion will write its doom upon the wall.

There is, of course, a place for a

stock exchange conducted along right lines. Men began to sell and barter as soon as they emerged from primeval rudeness. The bazars of Babylon, the great emporium of trade at Alexandria, the money-changers in the temple of Jerusalem, the imposing trade centers of imperial Rome were ancient Wall streets. There still is a place for legitimate trading and for a responsible, responsive financial agency. But it must be conducted along new lines to overcome the stigma that the present Wall street has accumulated.

A Missouri legislator has introduced a bill to prohibit the women from wearing dresses that button up the back, unless the buttons are as large as a dollar. Doubtless the women will aid in the passage of this measure and insist on wearing gold dollars for buttons.

If Chicago wants more new names for its streets the alderman might look over the marriage license column. They could pick up hundreds of names that never before saw the light of publicity.

The proposed income tax bill that will collect a revenue on salaries over \$1000 is a protection for the boss. No \$900 man will want a raise.

Another "double" of President Lincoln has just died. The grim reaper is slowly mowing the whole big crop.

Political scraps in Japan threaten to end in a general election. The Oriental Yankee is fast learning the game.

TAKING A NEWSPAPER.

An exchange tells the following story which is entitled to consideration from everyone:

A short time ago a cranky old guy lunged into our office and ordered his paper stopped because some thing in it did not suit him. We have frequently met him on the street since, then, and it is actually amusing to note the look of surprise manifested on his face because we are still in existence and the paper is still being published regularly.

Some day—and it won't be long either—that old man will "cash in" and his heart will be stilled forever. Neighbors and friends will follow his lifeless clay to the city of the dead. Among the flowers the cold form will be laid to rest. An obituary will be published in these columns telling what a kind father, a good neighbor and beloved citizen he was—which the recording angel will overlook for charity's sake and in a very short time he will be forgotten.

As he lies out there in the cold, cold ground, wrapped in silent slumber of death, he will never know that the last word spoken of him was by the editor of that paper he so spitefully "stopped."

FOR RENT—6 room cottage, bath and laundry room, good location, furnished or unfurnished. Call Phone Main 188. W. R. Kivette

FOR RENT—Five room furnished house. Inquire 1910 Fourth St. 2-26-3t

Persons who can't find anything

Give Your Dressmaker a Chance to Do Herself Justice by Being Properly Corseted

So much depends on correctly fitted corsets that you cannot afford to overlook this important factor of style and buy a corset that is not perfectly fitted to your figure."

You will secure more comfort and look much more stylish in one of our properly fitted corsets.

Our CORSET DEPARTMENT

offers an unequalled selection of styles from two of America's best corset lines for which we are sole La Grande agents.



Henderson Corset

"THE FASHION FORM CORSET"

in many new models for every figure. Graceful in their lines, correct in their form and superbly made of best possible materials.

PRICES FROM

\$1.00 TO \$5.00

HENDERSON
Fashion Form
Corsets

We sell the famous

Nemo Self Reducing Corsets

designed to meet the requirements of medium size and large women. We're introducing several new features that will interest every large woman who desires to be better corseted. Among them the Lastique back, the Lim Shaping Bands, and the Auto Massage.

All Nemo Corsets fitted with Lastikops supporters which are guaranteed to wear as long as the corset.

Nemo prices from

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Our expert fitters will help you secure a model exactly suited to your figure.

WEST'S

THE QUALITY STORE



Nemo No 322

LASTIQUE-BACK
SELF-REDUCING

Laziness grows fast and sticks. One touch of fashion is apt to make all women freaks.

The Test of Time

Time determines whether the policies under which a bank is operated are safe.

This bank has been in business twenty-six years.

It has grown steadily until it has become one of the strongest and most prosperous financial institutions in the West.

The soundness of its policies is attested by the long list of conservative business men who transact their business here; also by an earned surplus of \$120,000.00, the work of time and the result of conservative management.

This bank has facilities for taking care of more high grade business and offers its services to those who appreciate the best in banking.

La Grande National Bank

La Grande, Oregon

Capital, \$100,000.00 Surplus, \$120,000.00 Resources, 1,100,000.00

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TRY IT! SAGE TEA DARKENS GRAY HAIR BEAUTIFULLY

Druggist Says When Mixed With Sulphur Prevents Dandruff and Falling Hair.

Common garden sage brewed into a heavy tea with sulphur and alcohol added, then left to age and carefully filtered will turn gray, streak and faded hair beautifully dark and luxuriant; remove every bit of dandruff, stop scalp itching and falling hair.

Just a few applications will prove a revelation if your hair is fading, gray or dry, scraggy and thin. Mixing the Sage Tea and Sulphur recipe at home, though, is troublesome. An easier way is to get the ready-to-use tonic, costing about 50 cents a large bottle at drug stores, known as "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Hair Remedy," thus avoiding a lot of fuss. Some druggists make

their own, but it isn't nearly so nice as "Wyeth's."

While wispy, gray, faded hair is not sinful, we all desire to retain our youthful appearance and attractiveness. By darkening your hair with Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur no one can tell, because it does it so naturally; so evenly. You just dampen a sponge or soft brush and draw it through your hair, taking one small strand at a time. Do this tonight and by morning all gray hairs have disappeared. After another application or two it will be restored to its natural color and be even more glossy, soft and luxuriant than ever.

Local druggists say they are selling lots of "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur" and it surely helps folks appear years younger.

You Are Entitled to What You Pay For

There are two kinds of lights used in La Grande. Electric lights and kerosene lamps. Naturally, we are interested in replacing the latter with electricity. It is to our interest to do so. But it is to your interest, also. If you can get electric lights for no more than you are now paying for oil lamps, surely it is to YOUR interest to make the change. Let us prove it to you. YOU ARE ENTITLED TO YOUR MONEY'S WORTH. Call, or phone, Main 34 for rates.

Eastern Oregon Light & Power Co.