

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner

Entered in the post-office at La Grande, Oregon, as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily, single copy 5c
Daily, per week 15c
Daily, per month 65c
Daily, per six months in advance \$3.50
Daily, per year in advance \$7.00
Daily, by mail per year in advance \$4.00
Weekly Observer, per year in advance \$1.50

Advertising rates on application. All copy for display advertising must reach the office the day before the ad appears.

La Grande, Oregon.

THE FIRST COMMISSION.

Today is an important date on the history of La Grande.

By their votes yesterday, the people of this city elected three first class citizens as commissioners. Three men who not only are honest and carry the respect of everyone, but they are also men of ability. And this does not reflect a particle on the other candidates, for La Grande was blest this time with men as candidates, any of whom would have delivered the goods under the new charter in a most satisfactory manner.

Those who were elected would have preferred to have seen their opponents successful, and those who failed in election are doubly pleased with results. There was not a more harmonious condition in any city election ever held here before.

To Mr. Wood, Mr. Russell and Mr. Gardner, the Evening Observer extends congratulations and in doing so we feel that we voice the sentiment of at least ninety per cent of the people of La Grande.

Intense loyalty to these men is now the watchword. They need the untiring support of every individual for the task before them is no small one.

And while the business public of the city has no disposition to thrust itself upon the new commission, we believe every man in business stands ready to meet with the new commission whenever called and give these men who will wrestle with city problems the benefit of their ideas and judgment relative to municipal matters. All such judgment will be only in the suggestive form, and no effort will or should be made to exert influence. Such an effort would be futile with this commission, but at that it should never be attempted.

A decidedly and refreshing feature of this campaign which closed with yesterday's election was the lack of organized work in behalf of any candidate. No one came around and asked for assistance "because it would mean the favoring of some certain individual for policeman, or water superintendent or any other office." And

yesterday's election is probably the first one ever recorded in La Grande when some faction, or line-up, was not out to assist certain candidates. It was a free, open vote yesterday with not a string attached, and the men elected will assume their offices without a single obligation except to the general public and the best interests of the city.

MAKE WAY FOR FIRE FIGHTERS.

When the fire alarm was sounded last Saturday night the streets of the city were thronged with shoppers. In the hurry on the part of the fire department to get to the scene of trouble, and in the hurry on the part of pedestrians to witness the action of the fire fighters, several persons came near meeting with severe accidents. In the event of an accident some would have been shouldered with the responsibility. Who? Could it be the fire department charged with the obligation to make the most possible speed, or the volunteer department charged with a like responsibility? Hardly. A high power car was bought for the express purpose of getting to the fire, and is useless to say that the department has not proved itself able and willing to respond to this duty. Many of the volunteers possess cars that enable them to be on hand when they are needed. All this is as it ought to be. Who then would be to blame in case of an accident? Usually those over eager to see the fire. For this reason it behooves those who are mere lookers on to make room for the department proper and those of the volunteer department who have a duty to perform as important as that of the paid department.

In plain English it means for every one not connected with the department to get off the street and stay off until the vehicles have made their run. A life is worth more than a wooden building, but it must not be forgotten that there are lives at stake in a blaze and for this reason the department must have the clear right of way in order to lessen the danger that may envelope those not as able to help themselves.

The tolling of the fire bell is not only to apprise the citizens of the location of the fire, but it is to give them warning to get out of the danger zone.

The best course to follow is for pedestrians to stay on sidewalks and all vehicles to hug the curb as soon as the bell rings or the siren whistle of the fire engine is heard.

Coffee.

You get Schilling's Best fresh from the roaster. Preserved in its aroma while it is fresh, rich-flavored and fragrant: unchanged wherever and whenever you buy it.

In aroma tight cans, cleanly granulated, 40c a lb.—money-back.

YOUTHFUL AUTO DRIVERS.

Recent heavy death tolls in the larger cities have prompted city councils over the entire country to enact ordinances that young children should not be allowed to drive motorcars on the streets. Many of the accidents occurred while mere youngsters were in charge of the cars. If anybody knows the overstepping eagerness of young boys to outdo a comrade in a run of any kind they can readily see that the ordinance has a wise foundation. If a youngster cannot wait until the arrival of his first pair of long trousers, or if he cannot go to the grocery without racing against time he will not, generally speaking, exercise the same moderation in the driving of a car. It's the nature of the boy and can be guarded against only by withdrawing from him the privilege of operating such an instrument of speed.

The young lad hasn't the imagination to foresee possible accidents. It is therefore up to the parents of the boy to put a lever on his energy. Give the boy the car and his eagerness will overcome any parental directions to be careful in its operation.

La Grande has no ordinance to this effect. A near accident on our streets yesterday would not have found a youthful driver in control of a big machine, had such an ordinance been placed on the ordinance book and rigidly adhered to.

Your job printing. Have it done at the Observer office.

M'CULLYS NEAR JOSEPH AGAIN

MRS. M'CULLY DRIVES CAR LONG DISTANCE.

Interesting Recital of Trip Given by Portland Paper.

Mr. and Mrs. F. D. McCully, of Joseph, are just completing an unique

COUNTRY AIR.

Though I dine amid the splendors Of a palace day by day, Where the lights are softly glowing And the music throbs away; Watch the people all around me, But not caring for the fare, For I'm longing for the open And a breath of country air.

With an appetite that's faded, Day by day I wonder through All the stuff that's piled before me, Caring not just what I do All around me folks are laughing— It's their way to deaden care; While I'm longing for the open And a breath of country air.

Take me back into the country, Where the winds are blowing free Where the sunshine and the shadows Mingle into mystery, There I'll cast aside my frippery, For the old hill 'trails' prepare, And I know that I'll be happy, Drinking in the country air. —Harry M. Dean.

THE LONG DAY CLOSES.

No star is over the lake Its pale watch keeping, The moon is half awake Through gray mist creeping, The last red leaves fall round The porch of roses, The clock hath ceased to sound; The long day closes.

Sit by the silent hearth In calm endeavor To count the sounds of mirth Now dumb forever, Heed not how hope believes And fate disposes; Shadow is round the eaves; The long day closes.

The lighted windows dim Are fading slowly, The fire that was so trim Now quivers lowly, Go to the dreamless bed Where grief reposes, Thy book of toll is read; The long day closes. —Henry F. Chorley.

FIRST COMPLETE SHOWING OF New Fall Apparel Now Ready in our Exclusive Ready-to-Wear Department. West THE QUALITY STORE. —we cordially invite every Woman and Miss in La Grande to visit this elegant style showing and to inspect our modern store equipment. COME IN TODAY.

auto trip through Oregon. The Oregonian recites, among other things about this trip, the following about the Joseph family:

What makes Mrs. McCully's performance all the more remarkable is the great distance that she drove. On the day they set out they made what is considered an arduous drive even for an experienced man, when they went from Joseph to Huntington, a distance of 176 miles over roads which are not all that they should be. She also drove from Roseburg to Salem.

While not driving every day, seeing that the party stopped when so inclined, yet there was hardly a day at the wheel when Mrs. McCully did not drive at least 130 miles.

Included in the party when they set out were Raymond and Lucile McCully, who were being taken to school in the Willamette valley.

On the second day out they went from Huntington to a point beyond Burns, camping for the night in cots and tent built to the suggestion of the woman at the helm.

From Burns to Plush was another long drive and sandy country, and then from Plush to Lakeview, and so on to Klamath Falls, Fort Klamath and Crater lake. On this leg of the trip Mrs. McCully had some hard driving to do as she took what is known as the Buzzard creek road—not only difficult and badly graded, but rough and hard on cars.

New Road Is Traveled. "After leaving Crater lake we took the Willamette valley route to Portland, and now we are going back via the Barlow Toll road, so that in this way we shall be traveling over fresh ground practically all the way.

"The roads in Douglas county are frightful. Practically over the entire state what astonished us more than any other thing was the great desire there seems to be to have good roads. The questions we have been asked were innumerable."

"Yes," broke in Mr. McCully, "and you can notice the change in another way. Not so very long ago a farmer was inclined to roll stones on the road because of the 'abominable' motorists;

today he'll go out of his way to remove stones. What is more, all along the road the hospitality offered to motorists struck me as little short of remarkable.

"Another thing: All over the country districts the man who is given to noticing these things will find a wonderful change in sentiment and an intense interest where formerly there was nothing but slothful ignorance and lack of any desire for betterment. All seem imbued with the desire to make Oregon as famous for her roads as she is for her scenery, and with that spirit abroad it will not be long now before one can go from one end of the state to the other on hard-surfaced, well-graded roads. That may sound optimistic, but you can take my word for it."

"By taking the mountain road home, we shall only have to traverse 50 miles of old road in our trip around the entire state." Those were the final re-

marks of Mrs. F. D. McCully, wife of a prominent banker at Joseph, Walla-walla county, who, with her husband, had passed a fortnight in a tour of the state. Mrs. McCully probably achieved the record of being the first woman to drive around the state in this way, for no other hands but her's guided the wheel on the whole of the long trip. Throughout the entire trip they found that great interest was being manifested for good roads.

"As an example of the amount of motoring done in Oregon this year compared with former years, one cannot do better than judge by the number of cars to be seen at Crater lake", said Mrs. McCully. "When we got there, on Saturday, we found cars from Oregon and Washington, of course, but there were others from Oklahoma, Wyoming, Colorado, New York and Washington, D. C., to say nothing of a number from California.

La Grande National Bank Organized in 1887. DESIGNATED DEPOSITORY OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. UNITED STATES POSTAL SAVINGS DEPOSITORY. Capital \$100,000.00 Surplus \$130,000.00 Total Resources \$1,000,000.00 For twenty-six years, in all kinds of financial weather, we have successfully entered to the monetary wants of the people of La Grande and the Grande Ronde Valley. We respectfully solicit your business. La Grande National Bank La Grande, Oregon

Both Sides of the TRAVEL SUBJECT The Road and What It Gives Steel Coaches Block Signals Courteous Employees Good Meals Modern Equipment. 4 Trains to the East Every Day. 4 Trains Daily between Portland, Tacoma and Seattle. EVERY ESSENTIAL COMFORT. ANY AGENT WILL BE PLEAS-ED TO HELP YOU PLAN YOUR TRIP.