

THE OBSERVER

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Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth St., LA GRANDE AS ENTERTAINER.

Never in the history of the city has La Grande done as much entertaining in one year as she has done in the past three weeks.

First, came the bankers of Group Six and the two local banks mapped out a program that was a winner.

Then came the teachers and they were entertained in a royal manner. The strongest praise was given the city for its earnest effort to make them have a good time.

Following them came the farmers of Southern Idaho and Oregon in the Farmers' Union convention for three days. Did they have a good time?

And as a grand finale the butter and cheese makers of Oregon, Washington and Idaho met in La Grande. All of them returned home with the same good word for this city.

In these three weeks La Grande has done more advertising than ever before in her history in the same given time. She has convinced every visitor that her village days are over; that she is a town of some size, peopled with generous people who possess talent and are always glad to open the front door to neighbors.

It has been a great time for this city, to take our neighbors by the hand and bid them welcome; to assure them of our appreciation of their visit, and to urge them to return whenever the opportunity may present.

BRAGG'S SENSIBLE ADMONITION.

Recently when the teachers of Eastern Oregon were here in annual session E. E. Bragg, for many years

county superintendent, made an address that carried some splendid logic. He spoke of this idea of "progressiveness" in school matters and urged all teachers to be sure and draw the line between what is really progressive in school work and what is only a mere fad.

He could have gone a step farther and probably would if he had the time, and stated that the 'general public is beginning to inwardly murmur at the enormous school expense in the state, and to wonder if the state is getting value received for all money expended.

No one objects to their school tax, if they believe the money is not being spent to try out new "fads" which in the end have little worth and only act as advertising schemes for the ambitious promoters.

The schools that need the greatest expenditures proportionately are getting the least. We have reference to the country schools. Mr. Bragg did not include this in his statement, but there is little doubt that the veteran school man thought it.

The rural school is entitled to earnest consideration. It is a foundation stone in the structure of education which must be kept intact, else the higher institutions of learning are forced to dwell on faulty foundations.

There is positively no question but that there is a great lost motion in the entire school system of the present day. Just where to locate it is another matter and will require careful inspection, but one of the places was plainly pointed t when Mr. Bragg mentioned the difference between progressive educational methods and fads.

MORE ED. WRIGHTS NEEDED AT SALEM.

Governor West has named Ed. Wright to revise the election laws, and in making that appointment the governor showed good judgment.

If the state house at Salem were filled with Ed Wrights there would be a difference in state affairs and that difference would be decidedly for the better. The taxpayers of Oregon would not be confronted with such enormous taxes if Ed. Wright, or men of his kind, filled the commissions and the important places in the state.

His long training in public work and his extraordinary ability in handling affairs would be one of the best assets the state house could have.

Over in Baker a prominent citizen subscribed \$100 to the Y. M. C. A. campaign fund during the heat of an exciting campaign. When he cooled off he decided he did not want to pay it. But the Y. M. C. A. after exhausting all its efforts to amicably collect the donation, has brought suit for the amount. This would indicate that the little Y. M. C. A. cards are in reality promissory notes and it is better to pay them than to object.

Ashland has been chosen as the show window of Oregon. This is due to the large amount of travel expected up and down the coast during the San Francisco fair period. Union county should begin at once to prepare an exhibit for Ashland, and thus attract some of the show goes to this part of the state.

The new city manager has a knotty problem to solve, but with the help of the three able commissioners, the problem will be solved. In our opinion La Grande will never have cause to regret the day when the voters adopted the commission government.

This is the time of year when the

The Most Complete & Attractive Line of



We Have Ever Shown Now on Display

Do Your Xmas Shopping Early

More time now to select gifts that will please each friend and more complete stock to choose from--Besides you will avoid the usual shopping rush the last few days before Xmas.



Why Not Give a

Chief Joseph Indian Blanket

Made of the best quality fleece wool, bound with heavy felt. Hundreds of charming new designs to select from.

Our Special \$5.00

The Chief \$7.50

Pappoose Blanket \$1.50 and \$2.00

New Shipment

Utz & Dunn Shoes

Just Received. Patent, Calf-skin and Suede Leather.



VISIT TOYLAND

In the millinery balcony "Sole agents for the famous" Steiff's Imported Toys

coal dealer has a smile that will not come off.

NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE.

They Display it in an Acute Form in Tomsk, Siberia.

In "Through Siberia--An Empire in the Making," by R. L. Wright and Basset Dighy, the authors tell us that the city of Tomsk has two morning dailies. Any important news that comes over the wires during the day is struck off on handbills, which are sold in the streets as "telegramma."

At the time of the Russo-Chinese crisis there came early one morning the startling report that the Russian minister at Peking had been assassinated.

"One of the papers at once rushed a handbill through the press, but before it was distributed came the official details from St. Petersburg and Peking. In keeping with the best journalistic traditions of the occidant, the editor had the denials printed on a second handbill.

"Then he called all the newsboys into the inner office, explained the situation with the utmost candor, handed out supplies of each bill to the eager lads and told them to run the streets crying 'Horrible Assassination' until the 'Horrible Assassinations' had sold out. Then, after resting up for ten minutes, they were to open a chorus of 'Startling Sequel' and proceed to sell out all their 'Startling Sequels.' And they did."

A Cautious Young Woman. Elizabeth had been strictly trained in the proprieties of receiving gifts of money. Uncle John arrived, a privileged character, and after the custom of uncles produced a quarter dollar. Likewise he offered to go to the candy man's shop across the way on a squandering expedition.

There Elizabeth chose a box of candy at 10 cents. The shopkeeper took the quarter and produced in exchange the box and 15 cents. Elizabeth was polite, but firm, as she refused the change. "Thank you," she said, "but we are not allowed to take money from everybody."--New York Post.

He Looked It. "The last man that came by askin' for work," said the farmer, "was one o' them writin' chaps."

"Did he say he was?" "He didn't need to. I knowed it without tellin'. Fer he looked as lonesome as a sheddin' owl settin' on a graveyard gatepost an' as hungry as a possum up a sumpion tree that had jost been hit by lightning."--Atlanta Constitution.

Defining the Disease. "I've cared for several persons," she explained, "but I never have loved any one so that I would have been willing to give up my home and work for him if necessary. That is real love, isn't it?" "No; that isn't real love. That is softening of the brain."--Chicago Record-Herald.

Easily. "Do you believe woman will ever be able to outstrip man?" she asked. "It isn't a matter for speculation," he replied, "She done it."--Chicago Record-Herald.

LEARNING.

Learning without thought is labor lost. Thought without learning is perilous.--Confucius.

He might be a very clever man by nature, for all I know, but he laid so many blocks upon his head that his brains could not move.--Hall.

Historians make men wise; poets, witty; the mathematicians, subtle; natural philosophy, deep; morals, grave; logic, and rhetoric, able to contend.--Bacon.

No man is wiser for his learning. Wit and wisdom are born with a man.--Selden.

Instruction does not prevent waste of time or mistakes, and mistakes themselves are often the best teachers of all.--Froude.

LOST LOVE.

Who wins his love shall lose her. Who loses her shall gain. For still the spirit woos her-- A soul without a stain-- And memory still pursues her. With longings not in vain!

He loses her who gains her. Who watches day by day The dust of time that stains her. The griefs that leave her gray. The flesh that yet enchains her Whose grace hath passed away!

Oh, happier he who gains not The love some seem to gain. The joy that custom stains not Shall still with him remain. The loveliness that wanes not. The love that ne'er can wane.

In dreams she grows not older The land of dream among. Though all the world was colder. Though all the songs be sung. In dreams doth he behold her Still fair and kind and young. --Andrew Lang.

PHILOSOPHICAL.

If all our wishes were gratified most of our pleasures would be destroyed.--Archbishop Whately.

A man is very apt to complain of the ingratitude of those who have risen far above him.--Dr. Johnson.

If a sparrow cannot fall without God's knowledge, how can an empire rise without his aid?--Benjamin Franklin.

GOD GIVE THEE PEACE.

God give thee peace today. Happen what'er there may. On him thy spirit stay As strikes each hour. --Charlotte Murray.

THE TELEPHONE

By furnishing quick service in communication multiplies a man's capacity and makes it possible for the business man to transact more business.

EVERY TELEPHONE A LONG DISTANCE STATION

HOME INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Not Hiding Our Light Under a Bushel!

The other day while visiting a nearby ranch, I was very much impressed with the advertising methods employed by a hen in contrast with those of a duck. When a duck lays an egg she waddles off without a word, but the hen starts up a series of cacklings which arouses the entire neighborhood. The result is a greater demand for hen fruit.

With the number of

Banquets, Socials and Balls

Scheduled for this Winter you will surely be wanting a Full Dress Suit. Now you don't have to pay Fifty, Seventy-five or a Hundred for one, SEE,

McLeod, The Wardrobe At your service

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 catered 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