

## THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner

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## "SPUGS ARE BUSY AGAIN."

Country-wide appeals for the abolition of the useless Christmas present are again being heard. The open meeting of the Society for the Prevention of Useless Giving for the 1913 campaign was recently held in New York. Mrs. August Belmont, nee Eleanor Robinson, is hopeful of great results this year. There are now 5000 members of the society and anybody in the United States who is against the giving of useless or foolish Christmas presents may join. In her address Mrs. Belmont said that the original purpose of the society was to prevent compulsory giving by girls in stores and factories to their employers, the custom of collective giving which the girls felt they could not afford, but which they could not avoid with embarrassment and possible loss of their positions. This was one of the chief objects of the society, she added, but not the only one. Another prime attainment sought, she said, was a general cultivation by all classes of givers, of more thoughtfulness and expression of personality in making Christmas gifts.

"We do not disapprove of collective giving when it is done on the spur of the moment," she said, "or for some particular cause, because then it means that you have collected a sense of human fellowship of which the money collected is but an expression. We do approve of it when it is for the man lower down, instead of for the man higher up."

"Some persons think that we oppose giving. Far from it. We do not oppose giving, but we advocate intelligent giving—giving that is done with the Christmas spirit of good will as distinguished from giving of a compulsory nature, for fear or with the hope of retaining reward—whether that reward be the favor of the man higher up or advancement. The world at large should put more of the Christmas spirit into giving."

The men who have been getting punk cigars with pretty bands, and the women who have been receiving celluloid brush and cob sets they never could use, should be interested in the "Spugs." There isn't a man or woman in this country who hasn't squandered money foolishly at Christmas time, nearly every year. If the society can abolish even one-half of the fool Christmas presents, it will have worked a great good to mankind.

## CURRENCY TALK.

There is at present much useless discussion concerning the currency measure. Some men of great ability are of the opinion that the scheme proposed by the Democrats whereby eight or twelve regional banks will

be created instead of a central bank, is going to prove ruinous to the country. Senator Reed of Missouri, made a fitting rejoinder in saying that one of the best arguments for the bill was the fact that many of Wall Street's financiers had been lobbying for the past month to get the central bank idea incorporated in the new currency measure. Men will differ, some honestly and others will be compelled to make a show of a fight for a measure whether they believe in a bill's merits or not. They are compelled to vote for or oppose because either stand may mean political death.

Any bill is to a large extent what men wish to make it. If they are going to allow themselves to be fooled into the belief that one bill is going to have such an effect, they are frequently batting them out, to use a vulgar expression, and cannot for the life of themselves prove any one of their assertions. When a smattering of men get so much power in their hands as to be able to throttle a country's finance then it is time that the government take a hand in the banking of the country.

If the proposal of the Democrats has flaws in it it is certain that the president would be one of the first to rectify them. But all this useless talk about the ruin of the country is foolish talk. If they know there is going to be such ruin then they might know that a body of men had deliberately set out to cause depression of the money market in order to bring the administration in disrepute. There may be some virtue in the caucus method after all, if the Democrats stand together and put through their bill.

## Bazaar Will Hold Over.

The bazaar is being conducted by the ladies of the Episcopal church in Honan hall, will hold over today. An attractive musical program will be given tonight. The affair has been well attended so far and the returns will put the members of that denomination in a position to do something worth while for the church.

FOR SALE—Well-bred yearling Jersey bull. Inquire J. S. Mitchell Phone Farmers 218. 12-17-4tp.

## Mrs. McClain's Experience With Croup.

"When my boy, Ray, was small he was subject to croup, and I was always alarmed at such times. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy proved far better than any other for this trouble. It always relieved him quickly. I am never without it in the house, for I know it is a positive cure for croup," writes Mrs. W. R. McClain, Blairsville, Pa. For sale by all dealers.

FOR SALE—Western Cottage organ first class condition. Mrs. J. C. Starba, 6 Depot street. 12-17-3tp.

## COFFEE

"Put those clouds away" in the morning with a steaming cup of Schilling's Best coffee. What a blue sky! And how the birds sing!

## PERSONALS.

Cyrus Vanervoort of Portland, was in the city for a few days on business. He left today for Baker.

Mrs. H. Coleman of La Grande, went to Baker this noon to spend the holidays with friends and relatives.

John Brant of North Powder, returned to that city after transacting business here.

Mrs. A. J. and Mrs. P. S. Gourlay of Hilgard, arrived on No. 6 this noon to do their Christmas shopping.

Professor Armstrong made his usual Wednesday trip to Imbler this morning.

George Benson of Union, one of the most progressive personages of that section, is in the city transacting business at the land office.

Mrs. C. Bray and children left this morning for Hutchinson, Kansas, where they will spend the holidays with relatives and friends.

Miss Lillian Ratz of Union, departed today for that place after spending several days visiting with friends in the county seat.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. McAllister of North Powder, returned home this noon after visiting at the home of friends and relatives.

Horace Van Schoick of Arlington, Oregon, is in the city in the interest of the sheep business. He will leave tonight.

Miss Alice Gettings of Weston, passed through the city en route to Elgin, where she will be the guest of relatives during the holidays.

Mrs. Graham left this morning for Elgin, where she will spend the day with her mother. She will return this evening.

C. A. Bingham of the Palouse Improvement company, went to Imbler this morning in the interest of the company.

George Hull of Portland, arrived in the city this morning on his way to Wallowa, where he will visit relatives for a number of days.

F. A. Epling of the Grande Ronde Meat company, left this morning for Elgin, where he will transact business in the interest of the firm.

Mrs. R. Hug, of Pumpkin Ridge, was in the city visiting her daughter Mrs. Stotts. Mrs. Hug left this morning for home.

Mrs. Cull Smith of La Grande, went to Wallowa this morning on business. She will return tomorrow.

E. Hillyer of Ogden, passed through the city this morning on his way to Elgin where he will be the guest of Shupe Williams.

C. W. Bunting went to Evans this morning to inspect the new Co-Operative store which was recently installed at that place.

Mr. Bunty, the chiropractor, a recent graduate of the Northwestern school of this city was an outbound passenger on the branch this morning.

G. A. Long of Grand Valley, Oklahoma, arrived this morning and went out to Elgin where he will spend the holidays with several of his cousins.

H. L. Andrews, J. L. Kellum and his brother, George Kellum returned this morning to their home in Imbler after spending the fall in Fruitdale packing apples.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Henderson of La Grande, are moving to Elgin to take care of the undertaking business of his brother. They will be gone only temporarily.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Thomas of Richwood, W. Va., arrived in the city last night en route to Wallowa, where they will settle and go to farming.

Mrs. John Vanderpool and her daughter, Elsie of Summerville, visited at the home of Mrs. Wm. Thompson of this city for a number of days, returning today.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Blakeslee of Nevada, returned home this noon after spending a number of days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Bradshaw of this city.

Miss Minnie Hilles of La Grande, left this noon for Weiser, Idaho, where she will spend the Christmas holidays with her folks. She will return on New Year's Day.

Mrs. Tracey Zellner and Mrs. F. B. Dashiell who came to this section some two months ago left this morning for eastern Oklahoma, where they will make their future home.

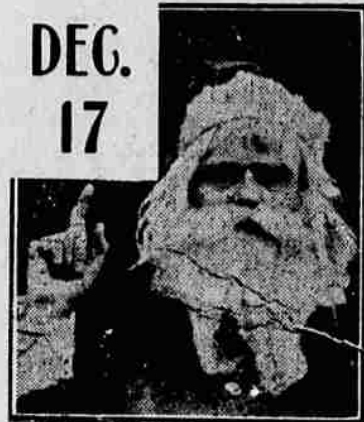
J. B. Brown, government boiler inspector for the Interstate Commerce Commission, was in the city, inspecting the rolling stock of the O.W. He left this noon for Huntington, where he will perform similar duties for the government. He is a son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. John

# The Weather Man is Warning You Today!

Real Christmas weather is here and Christmas Day is only one week away. Don't delay another day in making your gift purchase. The last few days always find the store crowded with throngs of eager buyers who have delayed their shopping.

EIGHT DAYS TO CHRISTMAS

DEC. 17



Hurry! Hurry! Hurry! Don't Put Off Your Christmas Shopping Another Day.

## Hundreds of Useful and Attractive Gifts Are Here!

Never before has this store offered so complete a line of Xmas merchandise. Gifts to suit the desire of every giver and at prices to suit the pocketbook.

**West**  
THE QUALITY STORE

## The True Christmas Spirit

Is always the best, where the comfort of the home and those we care so much for is considered.

Select your Christmas gift here of a useful and restful piece of Furniture that will ever be a constant reminder of your thoughtful remembrance of the pleasure a Home Comfortable held through all the seasons for its members.

We have a most select line of ornamental and every-day useful and attractive pieces of furniture for every room of your home.

WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO VISIT OUR STORE AND SEE OUR SPECIAL XMAS SUGGESTIONS.

**F. D. Haisten**  
Furniture on Easy Payments

## 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, New Quarter