



From The Store of Useful Gifts!

Only Three More Shopping Days Before Christmas---Don't Delay---Look over this list of Practical Gifts---It will help you decide.

Gift Suggestions That will Please a Man

Bath Robes \$6.00 to \$13.50	House Slippers, 75c to \$3.00.
Military Brushes \$2.25 to \$4.50 Set.	Traveling Bags, \$2.50 to \$25.00.
Smoking Jackets \$4.50 to \$12.00.	Card Sets, \$1.00 to \$6.00.
Shaving Sets \$1.25 to \$12.50.	Keiser Neckwear, 50c to \$1.50.
Collar and Cuff Boxes, \$1.00 to \$2.75.	Fownes Gloves \$1.50 to \$2.50.
Traveling Sets, \$1.25 to \$10.00.	Tie Racks, 25c to \$1.50.
Interwoven Hosiery, 25c to 50c Pair.	Linen Handkerchiefs, 25c to 50c.

Our Chief Joseph Indian Blankets

would please any one of your friends. Many attractive new designs to choose from. Note the prices. Large blankets \$5.00 to \$7.50, Small Blankets \$1.50 to \$2.00

VISIT Toyland

IN OUR NEW BALCONY.

Hundreds of gifts that will gladden the hearts of little folks. Unbreakable toys of every description to select from.

Sole La Grande Agents for: **STEIFF'S IMPORTED GERMAN TOYS.**

Hand Finished lifelike Toy Animal and Character Dolls 25c to \$8.00 each.



She Would Appreciate Any of the Following Gifts

PERSIAN IVORY TOILET SETS.

and single pieces, such as combs, mirrors, picture frames, hair receivers, hair brushes, etc.

Single Pieces 35c and up. Toilet Sets \$1.50 and up

Bath Robes, \$2.50 to \$12.00	Embroidery Pin Cushions, 25c to \$2.50.
Silver Mesh Bags, 65c to \$5.00.	Fownes Gloves, \$1.50 to \$3.75.
Vanity Bags, 35c to \$2.50.	Embroidered Handkerchiefs, 20c to 75c.
Boudoir Caps, 65c to \$1.75.	Work Baskets and Bags, \$1.25 to \$2.50.
Sewing Sets, 50c to \$4.00.	Embroidery Scissors, 35c to 50c Pair.

A Set of Gordon Furs

would be sure to please her, \$8.00 to \$200.00 Per Set. Marab Ostrich Furs, \$3.00 to \$8.50

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

With Union and Wallowa counties comprising an important unit, as they do in affairs of the state of Oregon; with the two counties working together in industrial matters, in social affairs and along the lines of development—it is but right and proper to consider these two communities as one, and in bidding the annual Merry Christmas greeting to the people of one county the same bidding goes forward from the Evening Observer to the other.

There is no part of Oregon where better conditions exist than in Union and Wallowa counties, and at the present holiday period it would be well to stop and take stock of the many good things that exist here.

With this desire in mind the Evening Observer has herewith presented

a 28-page Christmas edition in which will be found statistics that are of great importance. There are statistics that will give one renewed confidence in his community and will cause the eyes to open wide at figures not generally heretofore known.

The agricultural industry, the timber industry, the railroad division, the schools, churches and other branches of society have surged forward in the past year at a pace that one does not realize unless he looks deeply into the subject. More products have gone on the markets of the world from the Grande Ronde valley and Wallowa county than ever before. More money is returning in payment for those products, enlarging and perfecting the commercial situation to a degree that is pleasant to observe.

In our endeavor to cover these events earnest effort has been expended and every subject treated has had careful investigation. We today hand you this Christmas number of the Observer with a cheerfulness

that can only be felt by the man who is proud of his home community. This pride is shared by every employe who has assisted in producing this number of the paper.

And to the happy people of Union and Wallowa counties we say, continue in your happiness; look not for other locations else you be disappointed when you compare them with your present home; strive hard to make next year step ahead of the one now recorded, and throughout each day of the coming year live in such away that you may show your appreciation to a good God who has permitted you to exist in this locality.

May each and everyone of you experience a Merry Christmas and may each and everyone contribute to the happiness of others—for in so contributing you acquire the real pleasure and satisfaction of a joyous Yuletide.

SANTA CLAUS.

*Some one asks whether the Observer readers think that children should be deceived into believing that there is such a person as Santa Claus.

Why, of course not. What all good people think is that children should know there is a Santa Claus.

Put into the breast of every kid in La Grande this paraphrase of faith—"I know that my Santa Claus liveth."

That is the work laid out for the Good Fellows of La Grande. The good fellow is the real Santa Claus.

Santa Claus deceitful? Not for a minute. He is all right. The trouble with Santa Claus is that a lot of rich people have stolen his livery to serve—well, not to serve him in. They have stolen his clothes.

Santa Claus is not interested in the rich at all. He does not care to give presents to those who are not in want of them. It is the poor that are on his mind and in his heart.

Let any child in La Grande be broken-hearted Christmas morning and the real Santa Claus that missed him will have a bad day of it.

Who is this old apple-cheeked fellow with white whiskers, wearing a rich red suit and ermine cap? He is an old fraud. He is a snob. Catch his reindeers stopping at a hovell. Not a bit of it. They're trained to

stop most at handsome homes, the handsomer the better. How their bells jingle at a palace! What costly gifts the counterfeit Santa Claus leaves there!

Your real Santa Claus looks out for the poorer streets. If there is a dark alley with its squalid home, that is the house that figures largest on his calling list. Wherever there is a family with a black cloud of hunger and want hanging over it, that is the cloud that he paints with the silver lining of his Christmas dinner and his Christmas toys.

Faith 'n Santa Claus! Would a person of La Grande rob a child in a darkened chamber of any ray of light that entered there? Certainly not.

Well, would a single one rob any child, whose home may be a darkened chamber, of the ray of light that a real Santa Claus brings with him there on Christmas Day? No, no!

So, Good Fellows, including Elks—you real Santa Clauses—get busy, that not an eager, hopeful child of the poor in La Grande may miss your Christmas cheer.

CHAPMAN AT CHICAGO.

It was a good stroke of business sense to send C. C. Chapman manager of the Portland Commercial club, to the Chicago land show, for the land show has been rightfully designated as the show window of all the states.

He took an Oregon exhibit—not a Portland exhibit—and he talked, as only Chapman can, of the resources of this state; of the need of farmers and the inducements being held out to the man who will locate here and till the soil.

Eastern Oregon was not overlooked by him, for a personal letter to the editor of the Observer, tells of the attention attracted to this section by the Oregon display. In his letter Mr. Chapman uses that good common sense he has always displayed by urging the people in Eastern Oregon to quit promoting but get down to business, do things in a practical manner. By this he means instead of spreading the stories of men growing rich in a day from promotion of some enterprise, to tell over and over again the standing of some good man who came here with little

and by thrift and honest effort now has a bank account, a piece of land—the man who is sending his children to school, who is an active citizen in the community.

This is a sample of the Oregon gospel preached by Chapman at Chicago. He did not tell anyone to come out here and buy land at a thousand dollars an acre, but he told the great solid rank and file of the middle states population that there are good openings in Oregon for the farmer who farms veery much in same as he does in the middle country. And this is the gospel that is going to save Oregon from being a Portland instead of an Oregon. Mr. Chapman knows that Portland has outgrown herself—that she has a municipality too big and too expensive for the developed sections of Oregon to maintain and he is using his every energy to build up the outside state and let Portland stand still for a while until the rural regions catch up.

And Chapman is right. It is well that he was sent to the Chicago land show.

HOW TO BUILD ROADS.

Elgin's Recorder—a very creditable weekly newspaper, throws a redhot spasm because the Observer insists inconsistency prevails when people talk of bonding a state for sixteen million dollars to build roads when the road from La Grande to the local cemeteries is impassable at times of the year. The Observer told the truth, but the truth is what hurts all of us.

Now, so far as we have observed Elgin has used the same road building tactics that La Grande has used. She has a good street in the business district, but how about the thoroughfares elsewhere within the city?

Fred Kiddle, who has lived in Island City many years, and probably each year has sworn more at bad roads than any other man in Union county, showed us all how to build roads a year or so ago. He listened to all this flossy talk about bonding for good roads, heard the Warren Construction company and other road building concerns talk about hard surfacing country roads at enormous prices, and then he went to work with a few teams and hauled nature's

gravel from the bed of the Grande Ronde river onto the roadway between Island and La Grande. It took no high salaried engineers, neither did it take any mixing plant, nor narrow gauge railroad to haul the gravel. He did it in the good old-fashioned way roads were built before the maina for spending money swept over the county.

What was the result? There is a good road between La Grande and Island and the only place one is liable to get stuck is inside the city limits of La Grande where Mr. Kiddle hesitated on encroaching with his good roads campaign.

When the Elgin Recorder cools down a little we commend it and every other bonding enthusiast to the Fred Kiddle method of building good roads, which can be done without putting a mortgage on every home in Union county.

Read the advertisements too.

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 sollett your business.

La Grande National Bank

La Grande, Oregon

Shoot

AT

T. S. Makin's Ranch

Seven Miles East of La Grande

Tuesday Dec. 23rd

Beef, Ducks, Geese and Fresh Pork will be Shot for.

T. S. MAKIN