

OUR SECOND Annual Clearing Out Sale!

Beginning Saturday, January 3rd

Heavy Reductions in Prices Throughout Our Entire Stock. Goods must be moved and moved quickly. In order to our nine tailors busy during the dull season so we will have them when the spring trade opens, we will give reductions on Ladies' and Men's Tailored Garments during the Month of January. Everything in the store reduced. Prices will be quoted later. Watch our Ads. and save money

Andrews Bros. THE TOGGERY La Grande, Or.

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner

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

Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth St.,

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

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

NEW GOVERNMENT.

Manistee, Michigan, by adopting the new city manager form of government, has achieved the distinction of being the first Michigan city to endorse this new system. The plan brought prominently into the public eye after being chosen by La Grande and Dayton, Ohio, bids fair to outstrip in popularity the commission form, of which it is an outgrowth. The weakness of the commission plan is that it calls for the popular election of men supposed to be experts in their several departments. It is well known that few specialists have the personal qualities which make them able to appeal to the crowd. The commissioners as a result frequently are politicians of the same type as those who held office under the usual form of city government. Under the city manager plan the

municipality retains the commission, but instead of acting in an executive capacity, it becomes simply a board of directors with general supervision of the executive it chooses. Heretofore American cities have been limited in their choice of administrators to the local field. Under this new plan they can hire them where they will, as a business corporation does. Dayton aimed high when it offered its management to Colonel Goethals, but by so doing it gave the public an excellent idea of its new freedom of choice. The city manager is as applicable to small as to large cities. The December issue of the American City tells of the satisfactory experience which Abilene, Kansas, a place of about 5,000 inhabitants, has had with the new system. Manistee is nearly three times as large.

Will field corn ever become a staple Grande Ronde crop? Karl J. Stackland says it will, and Karl is a close observer and has a good many things up his sleeve that have proved very good for this valley. He says the elevation is not too high; the nights are not too cold, nor are the seasons too short. He admits that to bring Kansas or Iowa corn out here and plant it means failure, but he holds to the same opinion shared by the corn man of the O. W. R. & N. company—that seed properly acclimated will produce a heavy yield of corn in this valley and that corn from such seed will ripen. We do not pretend to know whether Mr. Stackland is right or wrong, but we do know that if his conclusion proves correct there is a wonderful future for the Grande Ronde valley in the way of raising corn. The major portion of the food-

WILL CORN BECOME A GRANDE RONDE CROP?

producing sections of the United States raise corn which makes that cereal king of all products. Wheat, of course, is a close second, but wheat requires large acreage and a wheat country is necessarily a sparsely settled country, while a corn country is just the reverse. There is a great deal more work to raising corn, but it can be raised every year instead of every other year as wheat is raised. This valley should investigate every possibility of growing corn, for once it is established and proven a success the tremendous tonnage of feed will add to the stock numbers so materially that the increased revenue will be felt by every one, and especially the man who farms. Jim Hill says there was a time when a "bond" carried some respect. Then, he says, the wily promoter saw people liked the word "bond" and he began to bond for all he could and issue stock, too, which brought the bond down to a very common expression. Hill says there was a time when a "man's word was as good as his bond," and that this meant his word was good. "But," he continues, "now a man's bond is only as good as his word." However, such promotions as these happened in Oregon—and there are several of them—before Ralph Watson and S. D. Vincent were put on the state's pay roll to look after all this flossy blue sky financing. If there is a place in the whole country where every farmer should have an automobile it is here in the Grande Ronde valley where distances are great. A few days ago Frank Conley drove in from his ranch, 18 miles distant, transacted a lot of business as he always does when he comes to town, and was home between noon and dark. It is the farmer who needs the machine—the fellow in town can get along very nicely without his garage bill each month. And cordwood has also taken its place with other commodities to help the high cost of living along. But few people regret paying the man who chops and hauls the wood his

gets his when you buy cord wood from the boys who do the work.

Some of the Washington departments are installing dictographs. It is not supposed they will catch anything very incriminating, unless some clerk should happen to sleep audibly.

An Indianapolis man shot his bride of a week at the breakfast table. That is hardly giving her coffee a fair show.

A Chicago woman wants a divorce because her husband dreamed of his first wife. What brutes some husbands are.

Enterprise will have a chance to think over that proposed new railroad now while the snow is on the ground.

Joseph's huskies will match the La Grande huskies on the gridiron New Years Day. Good Indians on New Years always.

We will bet the old Stetson hat that every candidate for the Baker judgeship is against the governor—except Bob Carter.

Certainly it looks as though city government in this country had entered a new lease of life.

John D. says he believes in honest toil. If you say it quickly, it sounds like honest oil.

Germany is suffering from a plague of mice. Maybe that's the reason the German suffragettes are so quiet.

Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the State Bank of Imbler.

Notice is hereby given that the an-

board of five directors to serve for one year and the transaction of such other business as may come before such meeting. SHERWOOD WILLIAMS, Cashier.

Annual meeting of the stockholder of the State Bank of Imbler, will be held at their banking rooms, at Imbler, Oregon, on Tuesday, January 13, between the hours of 2 o'clock and 4 o'clock P. M., for the election of a

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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

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



REX HALL
DANCING ASSEMBLIES
Each Tuesday and Saturday Class and Private Lessons Taught Afternoon or Evening By Appointment. Professors Mazanti and Sherwood, Proprietors and Instructors.