

La Grande Evening Observer

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER -- PRINTS THE NEWS THE DAY IT HAPPENS

VOLUME XIII.

LA GRANDE, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1913.

NUMBER 172.

FERN HOBBS SILENT BUT OPTIMISTIC

AIMS TO LEAVE HUNTINGTON
FRIDAY ON HER WAY TO
COPPERFIELD.

WEST PROMISES SHE HAS
THE NECESSARY GOODS

Governor's Envoy Will Not Leave for
Copperfield Until Tomorrow, Reach-
ing Huntington to Catch Friday's
Train Into Copperfield—Both She
and Governor Silent.

Salem, Dec. 31.—Methods to be used
by Miss Fern Hobbs were not
divulged by the governor today.
"She will go there with the neces-
sary goods," is all the governor would
venture on the matter. She will
leave tomorrow for Huntington and
catch the Copperfield train Friday
evening.

Baker Jokes About Order.
Baker, Dec. 31.—The announce-
ment that Governor West would send
his secretary, Miss Fern Hobbs, to
Copperfield within the next day or
two, is taken as a good joke by the
local authorities, who are puzzled
if the governor's action be true, just
how one poor little woman is going
to proceed to shut up the Copper-
field saloons, with not even the law
behind her to back up any effort she
may make.

Another fine piece of advertising
by His Excellency, seems to be the
prevailing opinion concerning West's
proposed scheme for clean-up.

Miss Hobbs, the secretary to the
governor, who is said to be his agent,
who will leave for Copperfield in a
few days, was formerly a resident of
Baker, being for a year or more em-
ployed by Attorney C. A. Moore as a
stenographer. She has many friends
here, those knowing her closely being
slow to believe that she would under-
take such a mission as West is said
to have planned for her.

Furious Fighting Continues.
Presidio, Texas, Dec. 31.—Fighting
was resumed in and around the city of
Ojinaga this morning at dawn and
the firing was heavy. Men are falling
in great numbers on both sides. A
rebel cordon is forming around the
city and getting tighter each hour.
The defenders are abandoning their
trenches gradually and a rebel victory
is in sight. A slaughter of federal
prisoners will follow the fall of the
city.

Visits Kamela Friends.
Mrs. M. A. Smith of La Grande, left
today for Kamela, where she will see
the old year out and the new in at
the home of her daughter, Mrs.
Pierce.

Baker Lady Attends Ball.
Mrs. M. A. Smith of La Grande, left
this city last night to take in the
Trainmen's ball. She is known in
the city and met many of her former
friends and acquaintances.

Send Remains East Tonight.
The remains of Mrs. V. E. Sutton
of this city, mother of Mrs. Frank
Baker, who died at the home of the
latter, will be shipped to Madison,
Nebraska tonight following a short
service in the chapel of the Bohnen-
kamp undertaking establishment.
Mrs. Sutton was 80 years of age at
the time of her death and was well-
known and beloved in the community.
She made her home with her daughter
for many years preceding her death.

Will Open Beauty Parlors.
Louise Rush, formerly located in
Walla Walla and other northwest
cities, has decided to open a "beauty"
parlor in the West store. She leaves
tonight for Portland to buy her
stock and on her return will conduct
a massage parlor, hair-dressing and
manicuring parlor there.

Mid-Winter Picnic Tonight.
Because it rained today is no indi-
cation the Methodist mid-winter
picnic at the church basement tonight
is to be postponed. Young and old
are especially invited to attend. The
ladies bring baskets with luncheon
for two.

Visits Pendleton Friends.
Mrs. Jap H. Stevens of this city
went to Pendleton this noon to spend
New Year's Day with her sister, Mrs.
Frank Frazier.

Newspaper Business

Messrs. Palmer, Lindbeck and Wood,
who came here from Oklahoma about
three months ago and launched a
morning newspaper have, after care-
fully and earnestly trying out the
newspaper field, announced they will
discontinue publication of the paper,
and devote their entire attention to
an exclusive job printing plant. These
are practical men and rendered good
service, but it is a plain business
proposition that two daily papers,
each carrying the enormous expense
necessary to publish a paper, cannot
get along in this field. The rate for
advertising is too low for two to
exist.

These gentlemen have given every
energy to their business and worked
hard. They deserve credit for their
effort and for having tried out the
morning field, which has been looked
upon by many as a great opening for
a newspaper.

The only way that the Observer
can exist and give the service it does
is by the large volume of business
transacted. Cut that volume down
and we naturally would have to re-
duce in the different departments to
meet the deficiency.

A newspaper nowadays, with its
heavy expense, is very much like a
public utility, and people generally
are growing to believe that two daily
newspapers in the smaller cities is
but a double tax on both advertisers
and subscribers.

The Observer tries very hard to
please and give full value for every
dollar received—whether there is one
paper in the field or two. No one
can truthfully say the Observer has
held them up when it was the only
paper printed in La Grande, and no
one can truthfully say they were ever
mistreated by this paper. We have
but one motto and that is—"Be
FAIR." This motto is handed down
through every department of this
business. Whether you are friend or
foe you are always sure of fair treat-
ment.

At times, even with one paper
there are heavy deficiencies for the
labor pay roll must be met every
Saturday night and the paper house
must be paid. But the bright seasons
of the year overcome the dull ones.
The newspaper business has changed
greatly in the last 10 years. It is
now a business that requires large
money to install and heavy expense
to operate.

While Mr. Palmer, Mr. Lindbeck and
Mr. Wood are practical men and
fully understood the great expense
necessary they had hopes, no doubt,
of the demand heard for another
paper of carrying with it increased
expenditures for newspaper work in
La Grande.

EIGHT DIE IN FIRE.

Holocaust in New York Spells Death
to Tenants.

New York, Dec. 31.—Eight persons
three women and five men, lost their
lives in an early fire this morning of
incendiary origin, which destroyed a
five-story brick tenement building on
the east side. Seven were seriously
burned and a score so badly injured
that they are not expected to live.
Scores more were endangered as the
fire burnt away all access to the fire
escapes. When the firemen arrived
on the scene it was only by the most
heroic work that they were enabled
to keep the loss of life at the figures
already given. A wild panic ensued,
and it was impossible for the firemen
to enter the building as all of the
entrances to the building were blocked
by the out-rushing tenants. Terror
stricken men jumped from the win-
dows of the building and from fire
escapes that were not in the region
of the flames. Ladders were hastily
placed in position and men, women
and children were passed down from
the top floor to safety. The dead
came to their end through suffocation.
A force of detectives have already
been put to work. The damage to the
buildings is great and represents an
almost total loss. Insurance covers
most of it, exclusive of the personal
effects of tenants.

LA GRANDE LEADS AGAIN.

No Town in Eastern Oregon Has an
Equal Number of Telephones.

La Grande leads in yet another
field of eastern Oregon. Telephone
data compiled by authentic sources,
showing the actual telephones in use
in every town of the northwest, give
La Grande 1,500 telephones. Other
cities of the northwest include the
following: Baker, 1,064; Pendleton,
1,012; The Dalles, 939; Oregon City,
852; Grants Pass 686 and Vancouver,
Wash., 1,291.

Since this data was compiled the
local exchange has increased until it
is now past the 1,500 mark.

FEDERAL SOLDIERS EXPECT TO BE SLAUGHTERED WHEN REBELS CAPTURE GARRISON AT OJINAGA

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 31.—Although
fighting still continues at Ojinaga,
and the outcome is doubtful, it is ex-
pected that the garrison would fall
into the hands of the rebels by noon.
The garrison is putting up a resist-
ance of life or death because they
are advised of the orders given out
by General Villa that he would take
no prisoners, that all of the volunteers
and generals would be put to the
sword.

The number of rebels is greatly in
excess of the federal strength and
on this account there is little hope
for the federals. Advices show that
the casualties have been heavy on
both sides, but particularly among
the federal garrison. Both sides are
fighting with desperation born of the
thought that defeat will mean certain
death to them in any event.

Huerta's prestige with the mer-
chants of the capital city is lost by
reason of the bankruptcy of most of
the firms of consequence. Starving
natives roam the streets and rioting
for bread is expected at any moment.
Huerta is of the opinion that with
his masterly mind in the field the re-
verses of the federal arms will be
quickly turned to successes.

He is scheming to retain a berth
in the cabinet of the administration
by recommending the election of the
minister of justice, whom he appoint-
ed to that post for the purpose of
making his succession automatic in
the event of his retirement from the
chief office.

Persons near to the grizzly dictator
say he is losing hope in the cause and
is willing to take to the field in a
last effort to restore order. The idea
is laughed at because they believe
he will be shot by some of his own
men.

Lind Going to Wilson.

Vera Cruz, Dec. 31.—Special em-
bassy John Lind of Minnesota, left
last night for Pass Christian, where
the president is now spending his
winter vacation, for the purpose of
conferring with the chief executive of
the nation in response to instructions
from the state department.

It is thought sure that Lind is
bringing at least a tentative proposal
from Huerta. It is considered certain
in the light of the latest developments
that he has in the last six hours
renewed his offer to retire but with
only a few strings placed on the
original offer of withdrawal which
has since been revoked. The
president has refused all information
regarding the visit of Lind, but it is
supposed that something of a definite
nature is now about to be brought
about.

TELEPHONE CO.'S COMMISSION MAY CONNECT HEADS ADVISE

CO-OPERATIVE CONCERN WILL
ANSWER SATURDAY.

Home Company Offers Connection to
All Telephones in County.

Imbler, Ore., Dec. 31.—(Special).—
This place was recently the meeting
place of the boards of directors of
the two telephone companies who are
negotiating regarding a connection
of the Home Independent company's
long distance lines to all of the pres-
ent centrals of the Eastern Oregon
Co-Operative Telephone association,
through the means of which all sub-
scribers of the Co-Operative company
connected to those exchanges, could
talk, when they desired, to all points
covered by the Home company's
system, as well as the Bell system.
The Co-Operative company was rep-
resented by John McKinnis, president,
and the following directors: F. Hug,
W. Ruckman, T. B. Johnson, A. Levy,
and W. J. Case, while the Home com-
pany was represented by John L.
Caviness, president, S. D. Crowe,
general manager and C. R. Eberhardt,
who compose its directors.

The discussion lasted about five
hours and is said to have had for its
text an offer made by the Home com-
pany last spring by which the Co-
Operative company was offered the
privilege for its subscribers of talk-
ing from their respective homes over
the Home company's long distance
lines, with no more cost than if they
went to town and talked from the
central office of the Home company.
This arrangement would make it pos-
sible for the Co-Operative company to
talk to all La Grande subscribers of
the Home company without the neces-
sity of building an exchange in La
Grande, it was pointed out by the
Home people. The offer of the Home
company was not made on the con-
dition that the Co-Operative people
should not build an exchange in La
Grande, but was independent of that
consideration.

The public in general and subscrib-
ers of the Home and Bell companies
could likewise reach and talk to sub-
scribers of the Co-Operative com-
pany, the same as subscribers on those
systems can now be reached over the

Earlier Planting of Larger Fry Is
Recommended by Government.

That the government fish hatchery
chiefs are in harmony with a plan
suggested by George L. Cleaver of
Imbler for improvements in the plant-
ing of fish fry, is shown in a letter
from Washington, D. C., officials to
Mr. Cleaver. Early planting in the
spring more mature fish, and recom-
mendations for planting fish nearer
the headwaters all streams than is
now done, are set out in the letter
which is:

Washington, Dec. 31.

Mr. George L. Cleaver, Imbler, Ore.,
Dear Sir:—The receipt is acknowl-
edged of your interesting letter of
December 18, reporting on your ex-
perience in planting brook trout fry
in the water of eastern Oregon. The
bureau fully concurs in your
opinion that a very large percentage
of the fish planted in the fry stage
are destroyed by predaceous fishes,
and that the results are therefore un-
satisfactory. It is believed a much
greater measure of success is at-
tainable by rearing the fish until they
are fingerlings from two to two and
one-half inches in length. It is
further believed that the plants
should be made in the headwaters
of tributary streams as early as pos-
sible in the spring, where the young
fish will be comparatively secure
from enemies, and where they can
find a sufficient amount of natural
food for their sustenance.

The bureau desires to express its
appreciation of the information you
have furnished.

Very truly yours,
E. LESTER JONES,
Acting Commissioner.

toll lines.

The result of the meeting was that
the Co-Operative people asked the
Home people to make their proposi-
tion more definite and the Home people
agreed to write their proposition in
detail for the consideration of the
full board of directors of the Co-
Operative company, at its meeting at
Elgin next Saturday.

Dayton Ready For Manager

WAITE NOW MOST POWERFUL
OFFICER ON RECORD.

CITIZENS JUBILANT

Commissioner-Manager Form to Be-
come Effective January 1.

Dayton, Ohio, Dec. 31.—Dayton will
inaugurate its commissioner-man-
ager form of government tomorrow.
Plans were completed today to cele-
brate the event appropriately. The
operation of the system will be closely
watched by civic experts and munic-
ipal authorities of the entire country
because Dayton is the first large city
to adopt the commissioner-manager
form of government. Henry M. Waite,
former city engineer of Cincinnati is
Dayton's general manager.

Colonel George W. Goethals, the
builder of the Panama canal refused
an offer of \$25,000 to accept the post.
Waite will receive a salary of \$12,500
annually, or \$500 more annually than
is paid to the governor of Illinois,
the highest paid executive of any
state in the union, and \$2,500 more
than the governor of Ohio. There are
but four other states besides Ohio
which pay their chief executives \$10,-
000 a year.

Politics do not figure in the city
manager form of government. City
Manager Waite is an appointive offi-
cer and will in turn appoint every city
official, excepting of course, the five
city managers who were elected by the
people.

The commissioners are George W.
Shroyer, A. L. Mendenhall, J. M.
Switzer, John R. Flotron and John A.
McGee. Shroyer is mayor by virtue
of having received a greater number
of votes than any other commissioner
elected. There is no city council.
Mayor Shroyer will merely preside
over the meetings of the board of
commissioners. Each commissioner
receives an annual salary of \$1,200.
The mayor gets \$600 additional.

Functions of city government under
the commissioner-manager plan are
divided into the departments of law,
public service, public welfare, public
safety, and finance. City Manager
Waite within the next few days will
designate one of these departments
for each of the five commissioners.
Then he will appoint his city officials.
City Manager Waite will be the
most powerful man in civic affairs
in the United States. He will have
full control. He will be the absolute
boss. But the people are not worry-
ing as Waite was appointed because
his political affiliations are nil.

TICKETS SELL WELL.

Strong Program Offered by U. of O.
Club Attracts Notice.

Despite the many local attractions
the ticket sale for the University of
Oregon glee club Friday night is
going along fine and all indications
point to a large house. Much interest
is being taken by the local alumni
and the boys will get a royal welcome
when they get here. The club has
had a whirlwind of success all along
the line and the La Grande theater
goers will have a chance to hear some
of the best singing that will be here
this year.

J. J. Nunn Admitted to Bar.

A local attorney has been advised
by the clerk of the supreme court of
the state of Oregon that J. J. Nunn,
resident of Mount Glenn, has been ad-
mitted to practice law in the state of
Oregon. Mr. Nunn graduated from
Ann Arbor in 1879. He had the
privilege of being a student of Judge
Thomas M. Cooley and has a recom-
mendation signed by that eminent
jurist. Mr. Nunn was a member of
the bar in the states of Michigan,
Ohio and Arizona, before being ad-
mitted to practice law in Oregon.

Commerce Court Dead.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The United
States Commerce court went out of
existence today, under legislative
enactment.

PENDING SUITS AGAINST TRUST CROWD CERTAIN

VOLUNTARY DISINTEGRATION
ALONE CAN PREVENT
PUSHING SUITS.

EVERTURES LOOKED FOR
BY GOVERNMENT FORCES

Sugar Trust Suit Not to Be Dropped,
Asserts Attorney-General in Deny-
ing Reports to that Effect—Believed
Other Concerns Will Follow Tele-
phone Trust's Lead.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The pending
suits by the government against the
violators of the Sherman anti-trust
law, will be pushed to conclusion in
the courts unless new overtures are
made to the government by the cor-
porations. This is not to be taken
that there will be compromise. At-
torney-General McReynolds is quoted
as saying, in reply to persistent
rumors that various suits of notabil-
ity, including the one against the
sugar trust, would be terminated out-
side of court, by agreement. It was
supposed other companies would fol-
low the lead of the telephone
merger and come in and allege a will-
ingness to disintegrate.

Much weight had been given to the
report that the administration was
currying favor with the big corpora-
tions to secure smooth sailing for the
new tariff bill. It is pointed out that
where business is dull it is owing to
the nation-wide readjustment of the
tariff schedule and not to the want
of business. While crops have been
good in this country and there is no
real cause for the alackness of busi-
ness in parts of the union, the late
Balkan war and the present embroil-
ment in Mexico is having some effect
on the business of the world gener-
ally. The business of the country
is reflected in the activity of the na-
tion's banks and that of the steel and
iron business, which is good. What
effect the proposed prosecution of the
pending suits in the federal courts
will have on business generally is left
purely to speculation.

BIG FIGHT TOMORROW.

Interest in Cross-Anderson Mill Is
Intense.

Los Angeles, Dec. 31.—With Bud
Anderson claiming to be 50 per cent
better than when he met Leach Cross
before and was knocked out, interest
in the Cross-Anderson fight is becom-
ing intense. In spite of the ad-
mitted fact that Anderson's work
generally as unfinished as ever, many
fans believe he will lower the Cross
colors.

HOLIDAY CLOSING ARRANGED.

Postoffice Open From 9 Until 10
O'clock Tomorrow.

Rural and city carriers will not
leave the La Grande postoffice tomor-
row. The postoffice will be open from
9 until 10 for general delivery, but
otherwise the office will enjoy a holi-
day. All banks and offices will be
closed tomorrow.

Air Inspector in the City.

E. F. Wentworth, general air in-
spector for the O.-W. is in the city
in the interest of the company. He
was here some time ago with the in-
struction car.

Former La Grander at Ball.

Clarence Rizer of Pendleton,
stopped off last night on his way
from Baker to take in the Trainmen's
dance. He is a former La Grande
resident being in the employ of the
O.-W. in the capacity of fireman. He
returned this noon to Pendleton.

Nebraskan in City.

Mr. Charles Puelz of central Ne-
braska, arrived in the city this noon
to visit with his granddaughter, Mrs.
L. Rehr of Perry.

Woodmen Cancel Date.

The annual installation of officers
of the local camp of Modern Wood-
men will not be held tomorrow even-
ing but has been postponed two
weeks. There will be no session to-
morrow.