

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

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THE TRAVELING MAN.

Our heart always goes out to the man who travels as a business. He deserves consideration, and if he becomes cross and cranky, bear with him, for he has ample cause for his feelings.

Think of going over the same territory month after month; listening to the same old groans about each town from its inhabitants; hearing the same venomous talk about competitors; going to the little picture shows in the little villages; hearing the same old wheezy phonograph—yes, and eating wherever it comes handy. Just think of it, and agree with us, that a traveling man, above everyone else, has ample reason for becoming cranky and crabid.

AROUND THE COUNTY. PART IV.

Returning to La Grande, we were given a stopover in Union of four hours without extra cost. Everyone took supper at the old Centennial, which has stood as guide post to the traveler for many, many years. About the horse show town there is always something doing. If things seem a little quiet the business men have a meeting and discuss a few things under the head of "good of the order," and as a result Union people come out united for some certain undertaking, and they get it. The evening we were there, a lady resident of the city had just been serving notice on the pool halls and cigar stores that all card games had to cease at once. This created some excitement among the younger set, but the old hard-headed business men have gotten past the card days and they did not care how agitated things became over the lady's unrest.

Billy Vogel, wearing the smile that won't come off, was busy handling a big January sale at the Townley store. But he left a customer to tell us that the horse show campaign had started and urged us to get every one in La Grande to attend, which we will do our best to do. Mayor Davis admitted that the official mantle was a little heavy at times but had no hesitancy in stating with the help of the bunch, he thought he would get through the year without having any serious mishap.

George Benson, for the first time in his life, denied that he was an exclusive democrat. That is, he asserted and affirmed without successful contradiction that when he entered the booth again on election day with no one but his pencil and his God, he occasionally voted for a republican, and might be induced to vote once for a Bull Moose. This declaration, in view of his long unstained reputation as a vote for straight Simon Pure follower of Jeffersonian simplicity, is interesting and offers another proof positive that the day of the party line is over. All that remains is for Jack Peare of La Grande, to make a similar declaration from the republican side.

Our old friend, W. T. Wright, one of the daddies of Union, met us with his hearty handshake. While his

speedometer shows that he has clipped off a good many miles he is enjoying the best of health this winter and working like an eighteen-year-old. Being short of help in the bank, Mr. Wright is putting in full time, and he admitted that he was breaking the eight hour law insofar as himself was concerned. His splendid vigor may be accounted for, however, by the fact that he has not slept inside of a house for a year, except when he leaves Union for a few days on business. He has a tent on his lawn where himself and Mrs. Wright sleep regularly. When we asked what he did with the big Wright home he said, "Hadn't thought of that. But the fact is, all our children have grown up and gone out into the world and we don't need a house. When I built it I made it big, for there were several of us and we like to have our fiends come in often, but so far as utility is concerned, guess we could get along without it now."

George Seibird is grinding away with his Union Republican, giving the people a good paper and receiving an amount of cash for his service. He has things very well nailed down over there. With his home and an acre of ground he grows his own vegetables, garden, fruits, etc. Keeps a cow and has that rich cream only known to those who have the luxury of a cow, and is really monarch of all he surveys. I could not help comparing his comfortable existence with the boys who are grinding out their lives on the Portland Oregonian and, pardon us, the La Grande Observer. George also has the horse show microbe "bigger than a mule." He is devising new ideas right now to make the ponies jump higher in the hurdle, and to make Henry Ward Beecher Smith's wheels spin faster.

"Mickey" Levy, another of Union's live wires, has the telephone business on his mind just now, for he is the head and shoulders of the Union end of the new co-operative telephone company. Mr. Levy has been giving a great deal of attention to the new company and has been an active figure in handling the business management which has brought the matter up now to the point of common usage of either line in the county.

"Lusch" Wright was busy the evening we were in Union entertaining Senator R. A. Booth, of Eugene, who will be republican candidate for United States senator, and Senator E. E. Kiddle of Island City, who asserts without reservation that he will be a candidate for nothing. "Lusch" is still running a city drug store over in Union. It is one of the niftiest places you ever saw. From the tile floors to the modern sign there has not been a thing overlooked and it ranks with the very best stores in the state.

From a good many sources we heard talk of a new hotel for Union. Just what the plan will be we did not learn but they are talking a new modern hotel in such strong language that there is very likely something to some of it, and we would not be surprised to see a handsome three-story building built there this coming year. Several expressed themselves as being ready to take from a thousand to two thousand dollars worth of hotel stock, but thus far things have not taken shape as to the financial end. Our guess is that the old Centennial pioneer who has run a hotel in Union

for a quarter of a century will, when the time comes erect a structure that would do credit to a town three times the size of Union. For the old landlord has always done the square thing; the hotel business in that own is his business, and he will come to the center when the time for building arrives.

A HOT LAKE POEM.

Did you ever stop to consider What changes eight years make? Just that long ago Dr. Tape left Hot Lake.

But the doctor is come again, His second time on earth, To manage the Springs Hotel And build a fire in the hearth.

The railroads caused his coming, It having taken control, The change in management made To raise it out of the hole.

Since the doctor took charge, Improvements have not been slow, Much of the work has been done, Though its only a few months ago.

Just eight years ago, 'Tis since the doctor left; How the place run down And of friends was bereft!

But the change has come, And the place is all aglow— Quite a difference the doctor's made Since a few short months ago.

OUTLOOK BRIGHT.

(Continued from Page One.)

al resources exhausted or destroyed; but there has been a change in the mental attitude of the public regarding their availability and stability. Present indications are that confidence is being re-established and that already a renewal of activity has set in throughout the country. A process of sifting has taken place and a new basis has been reached on which investors are willing to re-enter the market. Industrial bonds have not attained their former popularity but municipals move more freely.

The prospects for 1914 in the Pacific Northwest, are shown to be favorable by the tenor of reports received from correspondents representative of the entire territory. Conservative buying for the past two years has reduced the stocks of merchandise. Selling associations have already in some lines solved the difficulty of finding markets and in others progress is being made in opening up new fields or regulating output. The increasing outward movement of products is strengthening the demand for merchandise and the incoming year opens with the promise of gradual improvement.

The grain and forage crops of the three states show an increase in total value over that of 1912 in the face of a reduced yield of wheat. The hop crop of Oregon and Washington owing to a large yield and high price has given the best returns in some years. The fruit crop was in some respects inferior to that of 1912 but on account of better prices and a more complete clean-up, the net proceeds were better. Livestock and dairy products have assumed the largest proportions in the history of this territory. The pack of salmon is a record one and including the mild-cured catch, exceeds \$30,000,000 in value. Wool production shows a slight decrease in amount and prices have ruled lower. The total output

of lumber and shingles is increased, but a serious decline in prices makes the total value less than in 1912.

The aggregate of building permits for Portland, Seattle, Spokane and Tacoma shows an increase of \$1,562,494, although the number is 1841 less.

Bank clearings of the four cities increased \$81,492,646.19. Postal receipts increased \$409,779.12.

Real estate transfers in Portland and Seattle decreased \$9,616,015.54.

Union County Review.

Cove—Wheat, oats and barley are the principal cereal crops. Peas are grown for feeding. Cherries, apples and prunes are the principal fruit crops. Cattle, hogs and sheep are also extensively raised. Fall grain is in excellent condition. Farm loans are decreasing on account of good crops. More attention is given to dairying and hog raising than formerly. Merchants are fairly prosperous and carrying heavier stocks on account of increased trade. There is no change in the book accounts. Prosperity is general in this country, except among fruitgrowers. Prices of fruit have not been at a reasonable figure.

La Grande—Alfalfa and potatoes increased 5 per cent. Wheat, barley and oats, 15 percent, cherries and apples have decreased 35 percent. The lumber output increased 10 percent. Fall sown grain, 21,000 acres, a slight increase, is in the finest condition in years. Several new buildings have been erected, but no industrial plants. Farmers generally are in very good condition and a small increase is noticeable in farm loans, owing to improvements in buildings and stock.

There are too many large farms. Merchandise conditions in La Grande are first class. All are carrying heavier stocks on account of big crops and good prices, and on the average book accounts are less. The prospects for 1914 are very good for the county and extra bright for La Grande.

Union—There was a normal crop of hay and grain. Fruit and lumber production decreased 40 percent. Fall sown grain is an average acreage and in splendid condition. There is no change in the amount of farm loans. More dairying is being done and farmers are prosperous. Merchants are somewhat close run, carrying more on their books than usual. The prospects are favorable.

Wallowa County Review.

Enterprise—Wheat was an average crop. Oats and barley had a larger acreage but frost damage offset this. Wool shows a decrease of 10 per cent and lumber is about average. No new industries have been established. Farmers are in fair condition and diversifying their products more each year. Collections are fair and merchants are in good condition, carrying less on their books. There is general increase in dairying and considerable mail order competition. The outlook for 1914 depends upon prices. There is an abundance of production.

Joseph—Wheat, barley and oats show an increase of 20 percent, hay a decrease of 20 percent. Dairying, cattle, horses and hogs have increased fully 20 percent but sheep have decreased 10 percent. Creamery products, flour, and lumber show an increase. The acreage of fall wheat is 25 percent greater and in good condition. Farmers are borrowing for improvements and give more attention to diversified farming. Merchants are prosperous, with normal stocks, but collections are hardly as good as last year.

Read the advertisements too.



TO-MORROW The Last Day of...

West's 16th Annual Clearance Sale

Final Reductions in Every Department

Notice.

All accounts due Dr. J. W. Loughlin are payable to Dr. A. L. Richardson. DR. J. W. LOUGHLIN. 1-12tf.



Gossard Corsets adapt themselves perfectly to the present demands of fashion. The change effected in the figure line when fitted to a Gossard corset will amaze you. Gossard corsets all have the long skirts and you cannot detect the lower line of boning—so carefully is it done. With the Gossard there are no lines, except the beautiful natural lines of the figure. A complete line of models at from \$3.50 to \$8.50 always on hand. MRS. ROBT. PATTISON, Corsetiere. Res. 1702, Cor. Spring and Oak. Phone Red 3221.

VEGETABLES AND FRUITS

Parsnips, Carrots, Turnips, Cabbage, Beets, Celery, Dry Onions, Head Lettuce, Hot House Lettuce, Green Peppers and Cauliflower. Grape Fruit, Oranges, Bananas, Lemons and Apples. All kinds of Bakery Goods, Pies, Cakes, D. Nuts, Buns, Bread, Etc.

Berry Bros. Grocery Phone Main 721

FOR RENT—Five-room furnished house, 1404 O. Ave. Phone Red 501. 1-30, tf



U. LOTTES

Wholesale Liquor Dealer

1118 Jefferson Ave La Grande Ore.

FOR PRICES & QUALITY

ON WHISKIES WINES BRANDIES GINS, ETC.

PHONE Black 51 Distributor Of Lemp's St. Louis Beer

La Grande National Bank

Organized in 1887.

DESIGNATED DEPOSITORY OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. UNITED STATES POSTAL SAVINGS DEPOSITORY.

Table with financial data: Capital \$100,000.00; Surplus \$140,000.00; 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