

THE OBSERVER

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THE COMMERCIAL CLUB.

What to do about the local Commercial club was the problem discussed last evening at a dinner in the Methodist church basement where more than a hundred people congregated.

And it is a problem. Why? Because everyone wants a Commercial club and would not think of dissolving the organization, yet the expense of upkeep is too great under the present plan of operation.

A motion finally prevailed to sell the Commercial club equipment to the Y. M. C. A.

As the matter now stands La Grande still has her Commercial club. The club room will be discontinued, and in its place a monthly luncheon will be served to members at which time discussion of things bearing on the city's welfare will occur. When there is anything to be done in a public manner the executive board of the club will call the members together and do it.

We cannot see where the club has lost anything by last night's action except further indebtedness. Instead of having club rooms poorly patronized we will have a monthly dinner well patronized and thereby have meetings of the club which were impossible to have when called for the club rooms.

Public questions will not suffer by the change, neither will anything be left undone for the good of the city. It should be thoroughly understood that the present board of the club is a good, live, board; that there are many things now slated for development under its administration, and that under no circumstances will the Commercial club of La Grande die.

As to who shall be secretary under the new plan that is left open to the board. John Rudd, secretary of the Y. M. C. A. has been spoken of for the place, but that is a matter for further consideration as Mr. Rudd has responsible duties with his own organization and it is a question whether he can give the necessary attention to the club business.

While the board wishes to reduce the indebtedness and by last night's action succeeded in curtailing the expense to a great extent, there should not be and is not a disposition to cut things so closely that full results may not be obtained.

KLEES AS A DELEVOPEP.

Leo Klees of Summerville, is doing a work of extensive benefit to Union county in perfecting a plan whereby he can deliver electric current to the farmers of the valley. Under his plan the expense to each individual will not be great and the very moment that current is turned on every farm served will have increased in value at least ten times as much as the installation will have cost the farm owner.

We call this clean, modern development of a country. It will help take people back to the land, for it will equip the land with the modern convenience that electricity always brings.

Mr. Klees is meeting with the success he deserves and ere long every farm house in the north part of this county will be lighted with electricity.

ENFORCE THE CURFEW LAW.

At the meeting of the city commission last evening the enforcement of a curfew law was discussed. Proposal to change the curfew hour from 9 to 10 o'clock at night is a good, sane suggestion for the last performance of the picture theatres does not finish before 9, and besides there is no use going to an extreme that would make the law very difficult to enforce.

Let the hour be 10 o'clock and let every child in the city be made to understand its meaning. And go one step farther, let the fathers and mother understand its meaning, also, for they are really the ones to blame.

If Cove had had curfew law working there would have been a lot of petty lawlessness overcome, and if La Grande also had been working under a proper curfew law some of the disgraceful proceedings that the court has been forced to record would have been eliminated.

Proper restraint for the young is essential. In the great old southland where woman is respected to a degree of almost worship girls are not permitted to go out unattended in the evenings. Neither are late hours permitted, and the chaperon is a part and portion of society's program. It is hard to improve on the way the south raises her daughters. Keep that in mind.

ALL RIGHT IF THEY DON'T POISON.

By its decision that the government cannot condemn foodstuffs unless it can show that substances added are injurious to health the supreme court of the United States nullifies much of the pure food legislation which has been passed. Under this ruling the manufacturers' goods cannot be rejected so long as he doesn't mix harmful substances with what he sells. Even experts disagree as to what is not harmful. The benzoate of soda controversy proved that. Perhaps formaldehyde, used to preserve corpses and occasionally to keep milk from souring, isn't going to send the user to his final home, but we don't want it in our stomachs just the same.

The public indignation aroused by revelations of adulteration has been directed at the fraud phase of it. We don't like to pay for chickory when we think we're buying coffee. We aren't so fond of talcum powder that we want it in our bread. In fact, Americans—for all their reputed liking for spectacular humbugs—have a deep-seated prejudice against being cheated over the counter.

The supreme court may think we care most about our health and perhaps we do. Of course, we don't want to be fed prussic acid in our syrup or arsenic in our salad, but then some of us put squirrel whiskey into our stomachs. Nicotine isn't supposed to be a tonic, but a good many of us pay real money to absorb it.

After all, while we value our health, we'd be more in sympathy with the supreme court if it would protect our pocketbooks. We'd worry along with the poisons if someone would stop the shell game which some of the food manufacturers play on us in selling imitations.

What a farce it all is: Portland has found that most of the dairies supplying milk to that city are unclean and poorly kept. Yet the state is paying a large sum to have those same dairies come under the law or go out of business.

Our sister city of Union is debating the question of whether or not to pave. Our advise to Union is to pave her business section, but pave at a low cost. Take advantage of La Grande's experience and do not mortgage the whole city to a paving company.

Maje Also Wise Dog.

La Grande, March 13.—(To the Editor.)—Noting the incident in last week's Observer of the sagacity of Neighbor Clark's dog, I would say "there are others," and if I may be allowed space would give an instance of which I am cognizant.

"Maje" had the care and guardianship of Mr. Frakes' family in the neighboring city of Walla Walla, and on a certain occasion was taken by the family on a visit about 15 miles away.

Finally as all things have an end so did the friendly visit, but the day chosen by the family to return home was a very warm one and Maje contemptuously declining to ride in the buggy started out on a brisk trot to reach the desired home as soon as possible. On arriving in the city he came to the familiar railroad track which he knew would take him indirect to his pleasant home and cool corner

of the porch, and ignoring the danger of the well known bridge and trestle to be crossed, started bravely up the smooth route, seemingly unaware of the approaching train steaming down the dangerous passway. The engineer, well acquainted and quite fond of the old dog, gave a warning whistle and checked speed slightly, but Maje unheeding the danger signal, continued his course without slacking his gait until just at the highest point of the trestle and immediately over the running water of Mill creek, their ways met—or would have met, had not the big tired Newfoundland coolly stepped over the shinning rail and continued along on the end of the ties without any apparent discomfiture or nervousness and miraculously escaped without a mishap.

The incident was witnessed by employees of Dement's mill and many others, but none were more deeply interested than the train men who were anxiously watching from the cab window. MRS. M. M. BURNAPP.

MADAM CLARC TALENTED.

French Team at Arcade Shows Master Singing Profession and Art.

La Grande theatre goers will seldom hear singing of a higher order than is being offered at the Arcade tonight and tomorrow night. The initial performance last night was well received. When a La Grande audience applauds singers, and does it heartily as they did last night, it is a certain sign that the singers are of superior merit. The richness of tone of Alice Petit Clarc and her apparent ease, the beautiful swelling and piano effects, the enthusiastic vigor of expression and the great volume which she is capable of producing, mark her as a woman of splendid training. There is not one bad tone in her entire range and that is saying much. Most vaudeville singers are not trained singers, but Madam Clarc is master of this beautiful art of classic and semi-classic music.

Ken Metcalf supports her with a rich baritone voice of considerable range, and sympathetic accompaniment. They are a real treat and are worth the price of admission alone.—Adv.

This is What Advertising Did.

A lady lost a parcel containing two hair switches of considerable value. "I am going to take the one chance in ten," she said, "to get them back. I know there are honest people and the person finding them may see the ad I inserted in the Observer, and return them." On the following day the Observer was informed that the switches had been returned.

Whether it is a hair switch, (and that is a legitimate article of commerce,) or any other article of value, the article will in nearly all instances be returned when the finder knows who lost it. What the finder wants is information concerning the name and address of the loser. If you have pigs or chickens to sell if you have animals to trade, if you want to match a particular horse you own and by matching it make the team worth considerably more than two horses not matched would be worth, you can do that by finding the horse like your own. There is no medium like a newspaper, for it reaches thousands where you cannot meet more than a few hundred at the best. People who advertise and let business come to them know how quickly matters can be arranged by inserting a few lines at comparatively little cost. Don't spend dollars in gasoline and automobile tires looking for business, when it will come to your office through the medium of a small want ad. The test of the pudding is the eating thereof. The test of advertising is advertising.

Price Gates Fined.

After deciding to stand trial yesterday on a charge of intoxication, Price Gates late in the day decided to plead guilty and at 5 o'clock was fined \$10.

MORE MONEY AVAILABLE

(Continued from Page 1.)

dinner which was served in the commodious basement of the Methodist church, with the Ladies' Aid Society serving.

Mrs. J. P. Graham opened the post-prandial program with a catchy song number. John Collier briefly and concisely set out the financial condition of the club whereby the club is at a \$200 monthly expense for necessities and uses up all and more of its average income on maintenance and has little or nothing left for promotion work. Several speakers discussed various topics during the evening, Geo. Stoddard suggesting as a necessity for La Grande's success, more producers. Turner Oliver, misunderstanding the motion, feared that the club was going to disintegrate and arose to defend the institution's identity, but the new plan gives added stamina and virility rather than the other thing. Rev. E. B. Fyke pointed to the need of some advertisement in our own and neighboring states of the resources at hand here.

Neighborhood Club Represented.

Mrs. Turner Oliver delivered one of the principal addresses of the evening, being probably the first lady to participate in a commercial club speech program of that sort. Mrs. Oliver went over the life of the club, with the intention of making it clear that the Commercial club had won renown in times past for its treatment of the woman's club. Profusely thanking the club for its friendly relations with the Neighborhood club in the past, Mrs. Oliver, for the club, swore allegiance to the Commercial club by her association, and promised that both associations would and could henceforth work hand in hand for the commercial advancement of La Grande.

Launches Rest Spot Scheme.

The speakers for the evening were asked to suggest some desired line of activity for the club to take up and Mrs. Oliver proposed the construction by the club of rest spots at every downtown street corner angle. She had in mind the Sixth and Washington, Fourth and Depot and other odd angle corners of the city. The tremendous need of such rest spots was cited and the plan hit a popular cord. In lack of a city park in the business center, such rest spots are of immense value, she claimed.

Many out of town guests attended the meeting, including Prof. D. C. Sower of the University of Oregon, who is here studying the La Grande form of government and accounting, and giving suggestions for improvement where needed, not only here but in all Eastern Oregon cities. Cashier Lambert of the North Powder bank, F. H. Jelke of Joseph, Attorney Dan Boyd of Enterprise, and several others.

ADDITIONAL PERSONALS.

F. Evans of Walla Walla, a real estate dealer, passed through this county seat this morning en route to Enterprise where he will close a real estate deal.

Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Thorsen of Elgin, left this morning for that place after transacting business in the county seat. Mr. Thorsen is cashier of the bank at Elgin.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Johnson of Adams, Ore., passed through the city this morning on their way to Enterprise, where they will be the guest of friends for some time.

Perry Blanchard of Union, stopped off in the city to look over building conditions. He is busy constructing a new house in Imbler. During his stay here he was a guest of the Savoy.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Woodell of this city, left this morning for Imbler. Mr. Woodell will return tonight and Mrs. Woodell will go on to Summerville for a short visit with relatives. They were accompanied by their daughter Mary.

Howard Coyle, of Walla Walla, passed through the city this morning on his way to Wallowa whither he has been called on account of the serious illness of his sister-in-law, Mrs. Jake Hylton. Owing to a delay in delivery of a message he is a day late. Mrs. Hylton was reported dying.



ATHLETIC VEST Society Brand Clothes

"A Decided Improvement For Spring and Summer Wear"

Note the larger armholes—to permit free action and preclude perspiration. It is a real step toward comfort, an evolution upon the old style vest and does not in the least mar the appearance or fit—in fact it adds to the perfect fitting qualities of Society Brand Clothes.

See Our New Society Brand Suits Today Prices from \$20.00 to \$27.50

West THE QUALITY STORE NEW GORDON HATS FOR SPRING \$3.00

COFFEES We are now handling the following coffees: Shilling's, White House; M. J. B.; Hills Bros.; Red Can; Royal Club and Pleaz All. These coffees are steel cut; sizes 1's, 2's, 2 1/2's and 3's. We have a very fine quality of bulk coffees at 30c, 35c, 40c and 50c per pound. A fine line of Vegetables and Fruits for your Sunday dinner. COTTAGE CHEESE SATURDAY. PHONE MAIN 721 BERRY BROS. GROCERY

La Grande National Bank Organized in 1887. DESIGNATED DEPOSITORY OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. UNITED STATES POSTAL SAVINGS DEPOSITORY. 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