

OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

Entered in the Postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES. Daily, single copy 5c. Daily, per week 15c. Daily, per month 45c. 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-Star, per year in advance \$1.50.

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

Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.

JUDGE PHY'S ROAD PLAN.

There is bound to be a constant stream of approval for Judge Phy's plan for good roads, which was printed in the Observer several days ago. Like any other public question taken up by Judge Phy it is filled with practical ideas and good horse sense. No man in Union county hesitates more on increasing public expense than does Judge Phy. There is not a bridge built, nor a road repaired, nor an order for county supplies made, but what he tries to save the county money and at the same time obtain quality of work and merchandise.

His idea of the state building the trunk lines when permanent roads are demanded is an excellent idea, and is much better than for counties to enter the huge expensive task of constructing hard surface roadways in county units.

One county might take on the big debt necessary to build a hardsurface road and the neighboring county refuse to join in the work. As a result one county would have a good road through it only to connect with a common Oregon dirt road. Another reason why the state plan is more feasible is that the contract let for construction by the state would be so large and of such importance that it would claim the attention of every newspaper and every public man in the state thus lessening the possibility of graft, and giving more chance to get a dollar's worth of road for every dollar expended.

It is worthy of everyone's time to consider Judge Phy's road plan and consider it thoroughly and earnestly, for it is not going to be long until a hardsurface road will be built through Oregon for military purposes, if for none other. The general admission that a permanent, hardsurface road will play an important part in the preparedness program of the nation is going to force some cross-continent highways and we had as well begin now to contemplate them.

THE JOURNAL DISCREDITED.

The Portland Journal will suffer materially by the shaken confidence following its dispatches and stoutly claimed inside information that the Washington state supreme court would hand down a decision nullifying the prohibition law.

In the northwest the United Press service is an excellent service for evening newspapers and the Portland Journal being the one big paper that takes this service, in a measure acts as custodian and sponsor for the United Press. Over the United Press wire the Journal sent out the story telling of what the Washington supreme court would do. Then came the usual doubt expressed by papers not using the United Press and the Journal followed its hand by again assuring the people that it knew what it was talking about.

Then came the decision—a decision by the supreme court which gives no room for doubt—and tells plainly that Washington's prohibitory law hold water, stand pat, and will become operative the first day of January.

It is little wonder that the Portland Telegram covered its front page with stories printed in the Journal several days before telling the people that Washington's law would be nullified, and then followed with comment that was biting and fierce—fierce for the reason that it had the Journal in a corner from which it could not escape.

Any newspaper is liable to error, but in this case the repeated positiveness of the big metropolitan newspaper is almost inexcusable, and it will doubtless cause what the Journal says on any subject to be taken with a grain of salt for some time to come.

IS IT A GOOD HABIT?

Years and years ago someone who

Nearer Christmas Every Minute, Only 11 Days Left

The West Store is Ready to Serve You, To Please You, To Save You Money

1000 Xmas Ties for Men! Just Received

From a Famous Men's Neckwear Maker of New York

Make it a point to go window shopping tomorrow and see the biggest presentation of Xmas ties ever shown in one big display and at one low price.

50c

Beautiful Xmas ties that will answer every demand for gifts for father, brother, son or friend. Be sure to see them.

Ties that are made of silks of a quality only found as a rule in much higher priced neckwear.

of Foreign and American silks of Brocaded satins—extra large flowing ends and easy adjustable bands—Persians, stripes, polka dots, plaids, checks, and conventional designs.



MEN LIKE USEFUL GIFTS. HERE IS A LIST OF THINGS IN JUST THE STYLE AND QUALITY HE WOULD BUY FOR HIMSELF.

- Men's pajamas \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.00. "Interwoven" hosiery 25c. box of 6 pairs 1.50. "Manhattan" shirts \$1.50. "Standard" shirts 50c to \$1.25. Men's dress kid gloves \$1 to \$2.50. Men's knit gloves 25c to 50c. Men's bath robes \$3.50, \$5.00, \$8.00. Men's Pendleton bath robes \$18.00. Good leather traveling bags leather lined, well made \$5.00, \$7.50, \$8.00, \$10.00, \$15.00. Men's pullman slippers \$1.50. Leather collar bags 75c to \$2.00. Fancy garters boxed for Xmas 25c, 50c. Suspenders in Xmas box 50c. Combination sets 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50. Men's pure linen initial handkerchiefs 25c.

NO MORE SENSIBLE GIFT THAN A SILK PETTICOAT.

A big assortment of beautiful ones here in a variety of new styles—in fancy and plain colors, each \$2.50 to \$6.00

TURKNIT BATH TOWELS FOR XMAS GIFTS.

Large size with pink or blue colored border stamped on the ends in new conventional designs very effective when finished, each 50c

CHIC—THE NEW SKATING TOQUES AND SCARF.

The absolutely new in skating togs—and smart—you'll want a set when you see them \$2.00



Advertisement for DAN GREEN Felt Comfy Slippers. Includes illustrations of a man and a woman wearing slippers, and text describing the comfort and variety of the slippers.

Dress Goods For Xmas

The material for a new dress, skirt or waist, or for children's wear, will be greatly appreciated by the majority of women—why not make this a practical Xmas—Our piece goods department is the best in town—

All wool dress materials, yard 50c to \$2.00. Silks, a large assortment at, yard 50c to \$2.00

The Big Winter Suit and Coat Sale is Now on

Isn't it great to be able to buy your suit or coat to wear for Xmas at 1st of January prices?

Strictly new models in misses and women's

The smartest, Newest models in women's and misses'

- HANDSOME SUITS. Regular \$15.00 suits now \$10.00. Regular \$17.50 suits now \$11.70. Regular \$20.00 suits now \$13.35. Regular \$22.50 suits now \$15.00. Regular \$25.00 suits now \$16.70. Regular \$27.50 suits now \$18.35. Regular \$30.00 suits now \$20.00. Regular \$35.00 suits now \$22.35.

- STUNNING COATS. Regular \$10.00 coats now \$7.50. Regular \$12.50 coats now \$9.40. Regular \$15.00 coats now \$11.25. Regular \$17.50 coats now \$13.15. Regular \$20.00 coats now \$15.00. Regular \$25.00 coats now \$18.75. Regular \$27.50 coats now \$20.65. Regular \$35.00 coats now \$26.25.

HANDKERCHIEFS.

The greatest handkerchief exposition we have ever had—all kinds—such pretty ones—and such low prices. Children's handkerchiefs 5c to 15c. Women's Xmas handkerchiefs 5c, 4 for 25c, 12 1-2c, 20c, 25c, 50c.

No doubt had the best of intentions started a habit in the La Grande schools that can easily be questioned. That habit is the giving of Christmas presents by one pupil to another. It seems that in the primary grades this custom has been practiced, apparently to promote the feeling of brotherly love among the children. When one investigates the plan however, class and aristocracy soon become apparent. One little youngster whose intentions are high may not be able financially to give as costly and as nice a present as his neighbor, and therein the paths of the two separate. It distinctly advances the notion that certain youngsters should clique together—the worst possible form of snobbery, as all will admit. If all could meet on a common plane and exchange holiday courtesies it might go well, but such a thing is quite impossible.

Too strict attention cannot be given to equality among the school children, which brings up the idea of uniforming the pupils. Neat uniforms would do away with high priced clothes; would give a fine, neat appearance to every pupil and the heart of no child would be wrong because he or she could not wear as good clothes as a playmate.

HE HAS STRENGTHENED HIMSELF.

We believe President Wilson has added strength to himself and his probable candidacy for re-election by sending his message to congress. If one will

read the entire message it will be plainly seen that he goes to the heart of things in a concise manner.

To all who believe in strongly centralized government, and to those who feel that the great issue before this government is not to change its form but to save it from attempted control by outside powers, the president's words are to the point. And those who feel that with preparedness for defense must be considered economic and industrial problems as well as mere military questions will likely become enthused over the message.

His stand is courageous and while it is a reversal of many things he has uttered in the past and a complete right-about-face on what his party has heretofore stood for, it is a message that in our opinion will find a place of welcome lodgement in the American mind.

The earnest advocacy of organizing a board of advisors composed of the heads of railroad and industrial corporations is quite a surprise, but it nevertheless will breathe considerable hope in the heart of Democracy. Plainly the president has ordered the "muck rake" to the closet, raised a warning finger to old time Democracy and by insinuating at least, has said he would restore big business to a high place in the nation.

The effect of this message is going to be felt immediately in political circles, and the Republican party must stand with extreme readiness if it is made to test the President at the coming election.

We note in the Portland papers that "acceding to the unanimous request of the people of the Pilot Rock country J. Newton Burgess is about

to announce his candidacy as a delegate to the Republican national convention." Go to it, Newt, you will make a fine delegate, but please tell

us how it is possible to get "the unanimous request" of any locality under the Oregon method of doing politics.



A Suit and Overcoat for the Price of the Suit

THINK OF IT!

We will tailor a suit to your order and include an overcoat for the price of the suit. We will give you the choice of hundreds of fabrics to select from in The Very Latest.

We want you to get acquainted with the finest tailoring in the United States. We want you to tell your friends about our wonderful values. Hence this special offer of a

Remember—Hundreds of fabrics to select from. All weaves and colorings. Guaranteed pure wool—any style you have in mind—made just the way you want it.

SUIT AND OVERCOAT \$20.00 AND UP.

Sale starts Saturday, December 11th, ends Saturday Dec. 18th. Positively the greatest sale ever held in La Grande.

WILSON BROS.

New Foley Building. Phone Black 1761.