

Started Today! Now In Full Swing! West's 18th Great Annual January Clearance Sale

EVERY ARTICLE IN THIS STORE REDUCED

Entire Stock of Women's and Misses SUITS, COATS DRESSES 1-2 PRICE

\$8.00 values go at	\$4.00	\$20.00 Values go at	\$10.00
\$10.00 Values go at	\$5.00	\$22.50 Values go at	\$11.50
\$12.50 Values go at	\$6.25	\$25.00 Values go at	\$12.50
\$15.00 Values go at	\$7.50	\$27.50 Values go at	\$13.75
\$17.50 Values go at	\$8.25	\$30.00 Values go at	\$15.00

Entire Stock of Childrens Coats 1-2 Price Entire Stock of Furs to be Sold at Cost

One Lot of Over 100 Fine Over-coats for Men, Good Styles 1-2 PRICE

\$12.50 Overcoats go at	\$6.25	\$20.00 Overcoats go at	\$10.00
\$15.00 Overcoats go at	\$7.50	\$22.50 Overcoats go at	\$11.25
\$17.50 Overcoats go at	\$8.75	\$25.00 Overcoats go at	\$12.50

25% off on Finest Stock of Men's Suits

"Society Brand," "Benjamin" Suits, "Hirsch-Wickwire" Suits, Fidelity Suits.—Perfect fitting—Guaranteed satisfaction.

\$15.00 Suits go at	\$11.25	\$22.50 Suits go at	\$16.90
\$17.50 Suits go at	\$13.15	\$25.00 Suits go at	\$18.75
\$20.00 Suits go at	\$15.00	\$27.50 Suits go at	\$20.65

N. K. West & Co.

THE QUALITY STORE

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS, Editor and Owner.

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

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Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.

NOW FOR BUSINESS.

The holidays are over—and such holidays as they were—few people have experienced such good times, such complete relaxation, such devout celebration and commemoration of

the best time of all the year. Yes, all the celebrating has past into history and now it is up to every individual to get in and work. By work we mean, it is everyone's duty to try and increase the business of the city and community, to use all fair means to attract people to La Grande and the Grande Ronde valley, to vigilantly watch for opportunities to push the community forward, and in a general way to exercise "team work" in order that La Grande may be a better place to live in; that business may be remunerative, and that there may be in evidence the feeling of brotherly love and neighborly affection.

All join in to make 1916 the greatest year in the city's history.

One good guess of an abnormally extra-hazardous occupation in this

country is to take a contract for supplies for the allies.

SPECULATION AS TO THE FUTURE

There is much speculation in regard to what will happen to our industries with the close of the war. Will peace bring a severe reaction? Discussions show that opinions differ greatly on the subject.

Most agree that Europe will suffer from acute depression when the enormous spending of money by governments ceases.

But whether America will be injuriously affected, or will, without interruption, continue to march along the path of prosperity, are points in regard to which the best authorities differ.

The more optimistic reason that when the war ends, Europe will immediately begin the colossal work of industrial and commercial reconstruction. This will call for large quantities of materials in this country, notably articles needed for building, agricultural implements, etc., as it will take quite a while to beat the foreign swords into plowshares, and the spears into pruning hooks.

Taxes will have to be so heavy to meet the war-debt burdens that the cost of production and the rate of wages in Europe will be much higher than they were before the war. Our politicians do not seem to realize that heavier taxes here will also be an industrial drawback.

Of course, taxes here will be smaller than in Europe, and moreover the United States will have practically unlimited supplies of money and credit, and ought to be more than able to hold its own with tax burdened Europe.

Fortunately this country is in the most satisfactory position of any leading nation on earth, and with our excellent banking and currency system, there seems to be nothing in sight to check our unparalleled growth more than temporarily.

OREGON MAN FROM EMPORIA.

Thirty years ago in Emporia a black-eyed, keen-faced boy roamed the fields and woods around Emporia and played up and down the alleys and over the vacant lots, says William Allen White's Emporia Gazette. About fifteen years ago he went to Leland Stanford University as a teacher. Now he is Dr. James D. Barnett, professor of political science in the University of Oregon, and his book, "The Operation of the Initiative and Referendum and Recall in Oregon," is a sincere attempt to tell the story of those "fads and isms," not from the standpoint of the partisan, but from the standpoint of the scientific observer of facts, with no thesis to prove.

The book is published by the Macmillan company. It is a carefully worked out study of the election returns and their meaning. The book

presents the dispassionate view of a text book and it is a scholarly piece of work. It must become a standard reference book for those who are studying the results of popular government in Oregon. Jimmy Barnett is another of the long line of successful men, who as boys had their childhood inspiration from this town. If we could have known then how famous and useful they would be, how we should have deferred to these boys.

"MOTHER, A WORD THAT MEANS THE WORLD TO ME."

(Copyright, 1915, by Leo Feist, Inc., Fiess building, New York. International copyright secured and reserved, London, Aschenberg, Hopgood & Co., Limited.)

I've been around the world, you bet, But never went to school, Hard knocks are all I seem to get,

Perhaps I've been a fool;

But still, some educated folks, supposed to be so swell,

Would fall, if they were called upon a simple word to spell.

Now, if you'd like to put me to a test, There's one dear name that I can spell best:

CHORUS.

"M" is for the million things she gave me;

"O" means only that she's growing old;

"T" is for the tears were shed to save me,

"H" is for her heart of purest gold;

"E" is for her eyes, with love-light shining,

"R" means right, and right she'll always be;

Put them all together, they spell "MOTHER."

A word that means the world to me. When I was but a baby, long before I learned to walk,

While lying in my cradle, I would try my best to talk;

It wasn't long before I spoke, and all the neighbors heard,

My folks were very proud of me, for "Mother" was the word.

Although I'll never lay a claim to fame,

I'm satisfied that I can spell this name:

CHORUS.

"M" is for the mercy she possesses,

"O" means that I owe her all I own,

"T" is for her tender, sweet caresses,

"H" is for her hands that made a home;

"E" means everything she's done to help me,

"R" means real and regular, you see,

Put them all together, they spell "MOTHER."

A word that means the world to me.

DRY NEW YEAR IN LA GRANDE.

Apparently "all signs and predictions fail in dry weather." This could very aptly be said regarding the first dry New Year's day in La Grande. Instead of the usual, drunken orgy

that had been planned in the public mind to take place Friday night and Sunday morning, there was little drinking and very little intoxication. By proof it is shown that most of the saloons quit before midnight. Instead of streets being crowded with a jostling, blear-eyed mob it was crowded with perfectly sober people out to see the fun the "drunks" would make. The "drunks" did not show up and at a reasonable hour everyone went home in a way disappointed, but in most cases happily disappointed.

If every town in the state got along as well as La Grande did Friday, there will be little lawlessness to report.

How about the boy who used to eat onions to keep his mother from smelling smoke on his breath—is he still with us?

Today's Oddest Story.

Denver, Colo., Dec. 31.—With the arrival of the new year at midnight tonight, Colorado will mount the water wagon, via the stepping stone of

her new state prohibition law, for a long, long ride. New Year's cafe parties read significance in the signs posted everywhere, even during the day: No drinks served after midnight.

Indians Feast on Jackrabbits.

Pendleton, Ore., Dec. 31.—The Indians on the reservation will enjoy their annual feast tomorrow and more than 300 jackrabbits will furnish the principal part of the menu. Several of the red men have been hunting the last few days in the west end of the county and returned this morning with eight backloads of rabbits.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 31.—Barge

canal completion contracts, calling for the expenditure of \$8,243,861, shortly will be awarded. State Engineer Williams made this announcement here today. Of this amount \$2,001,851 will be paid out of the \$27,000,000 bond issue, authorized by the November electorate. Settlement of the remainder will be covered by old canal funds.

Consult U.S.



The Careful Man

MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM OF BANKS

COME IN AND CONSULT US ON ANY BUSINESS PROPOSITION. WE MAKE NO CHARGE FOR OUR ADVICE. IT IS OUR BUSINESS TO KNOW THE SAFETY OR UNSAFETY OF INVESTMENTS. MAYBE WE CAN SAVE YOU FROM MAKING A COSTLY MISTAKE.

OUR BANK IS A MEMBER OF THE "FEDERAL RESERVE" SYSTEM OF BANKS. THIS SYSTEM BINDS ITS "MEMBER BANKS" TOGETHER FOR THE PROTECTION OF EACH OTHER AND THEIR DEPOSITORS.

YOUR MONEY IS SAFE IN OUR BANK AND YOU CAN GET IT WHEN YOU WANT IT

BANK WITH US.

WE PAY 4 PER CENT INTEREST ON TIME DEPOSITS

La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON

Capital \$200,000.00 Surplus \$50,000.00
Resources \$1,000,000.00

Fred J. Holmes, President
F. L. Meyers, Cashier

C. C. Pennington, Vice President
E. Zundel and H. E. Coolidge,
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F. L. Meyers

SEND FOR THE DOCTOR

Symptoms signify the approach of some disease—what disease few can tell. It takes years of study and experience to do that. Send for one who does know—your doctor. He will diagnose the case and write for the needed remedies. And, by the way, these remedies should be exactly right—pure and accurate to the fraction of a grain.

Bring Your Prescriptions to Us

and you'll get what the doctor orders. It's as important to have your medicines put up by our experienced pharmacist as it is to employ an experienced physician.

We have the experience; we have pure drugs; we have perfect service.

La Grande Pharmacy

A. NEWLIN, Manager

West-Jacobson Building—Opposite Bohnen-Kamps Hardware.