

THE OBSERVER

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Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.

ED. WRIGHT.

But a few days remain until Eastern Oregon Republicans choose a candidate for Commissioner of the Public Service Commission which, to be plain, is a Railroad Commissioner, for the district lying east of the Cascade mountains.

There are a number of candidates for this important office. But there is one candidate that Union county knows to be possessed of especial fitness for the place.

This county has not repeatedly elected Ed. Wright as county clerk without opposition in either primary or at the general election without having good and sufficient reason for so doing.

His standing here is as good as a man's standing can be in any community. Ed. Wright is honest; he is capable; possesses that peculiar qualification essential to a successful public official, and he is a worker. The people of the district who know Mr. Wright are largely for him. Sentiment in the past two weeks has shown a remarkable change toward him.

When the Portland Oregonian in last Sunday's edition, realizing the importance of having a competent man in this office to be vacated by Mr. Aitchison, urged Republicans to set aside any one man's personal or political fortune in order that the state might have service, it aroused sentiment for Ed. Wright in every corner of the district.

The voters are now aware of the importance of this office. They realize that the Public Service Commission is the focal point of the state's business, and therefore must have men who are not only capable but thoroughly sincere, in order that the public will get a square deal in all matters coming before the Commission. And that is the reason sentiment is

so fast turning to Mr. Wright. In him is found honesty, square dealing, capability and sincerity—the qualifications essential for the tremendous work that the Commission is called upon to do.

NO BONDS, PLEASE.

A loan company that has many loans in Union county has issued an order to its Eastern Oregon agent to draw all business out of Hood River county because of hard surface road bonds. It has also issued orders to watch carefully the trend of sentiment in Umatilla and Union counties, plainly stating it does not care to do further business in these counties if the people show a disposition to play at the hard surface game.

These are facts, not amortization facts, but plain, cold, stern, business facts.

The understanding must necessarily follow that a loan company is not infatuated with blanket mortgage on any county where it does business. And it must also be understood that this particular loan company did not say success of a bonding proposition would drive it from the county, but it has asked that the temper of the people be noted, meaning if a large vote is given in favor of hard surface bonds the loan company considers it time to get its house in order and retire before the measure is put over at some future election.

Thus we see plainly that it is necessary not only for Union county to defeat the bonds, but to defeat them by a decisive majority. A close vote on this question, even with the balance in favor of anti-bonds is a direct stroke at the business heart of the county.

THE OLD AND THE YOUNG.

The death of B. B. Gibbs, one of the popular firemen of the O.-W. brings to mind forcefully that the old must die and the young may die. B. B. Gibbs was in life's prime. A

splendid boy with a very bright future. For six years he had fired an engine conforming to every discipline and requirement of railroading. He was the "next man up" for an engine, and to all appearances life was to him a pleasant drama with naught to mar his happiness.

A month ago he became ill, not seriously ill, but felt badly. Yesterday his remains were followed to the cemetery by a large concourse of friends and fellow workers.

Snatched from life's duties when the sun had hardly reached the zenith seems hard to contemplate, yet again we repeat that oft told adage, "the old must die and the young may die."

IT IS NOT OVER.

Strickland Gillilan's "On agin, off agin" applies very well to Col. Roosevelt's boom for the presidency. A few weeks ago it looked like the Colonel would be the nominee in spite of all standpat precedent. Then came a lull and out of that lull reactionary delegates were selected in such numbers that Roosevelt's nomination would seem an impossibility.

But it is not over yet. Roosevelt will never have enough friendly delegates to name him in the Republican national convention. Yet there is a great force at work. All eastern dailies are carrying paid advertisements demanding Col. Roosevelt's nomination on a "non-partisan" basis. We of Oregon know what that word means. We know how hard it is to head off the non-partisan sentiment when once it gets root. Look at "Our George" the king pin of the non-partisans, and who would dare say that he could not run again and be elected. Well, Roosevelt, to the nation is the superior of Chamberlain in Oregon when it comes to getting the votes in the ballot box.

So, keep a sharp lookout. We are more convinced than ever that Wall street and the extreme east is frightened by the war ghost. Those interested are evidently paying for publicity in the daily press and the Saturday Evening Post to prevent the Republican party from making a monkey of itself at Chicago. And if the Republican party insists upon making a monkey of itself by failing to nominate the Colonel, if Hughes declines, then watch carefully for the non-partisan move. It is in the air, and when once established, guess there will be little use for Republicanism or Democracy. The talk will be Roosevelt and Wilson with no party name attached.

PRODDING THE KAISER.

We are going to frankly admit that we are not a graduate in International law. But it does seem to us that Washington is prodding the Kaiser new on every turn. His reply to the President's note did not deal in pink tea language, but Germany is not indulging in pink teas just now. The reply did say in stern words of warriors what Germany would do, and the administration approved the German statement.

But now comes continual prodding and disapproval of this and that, indicating that Germany must each day be the subject of criticism from the administration. It may be justified. Sitting out here in the mountains of Eastern Oregon we may not be able to judge what is going on, but a common sense view of the situation is that the dissatisfaction with Germany's stand has come very late and that continual prodding of any man forces a fight sooner or later. Germany should have been dealt with firmly on the start, but inasmuch as she was not and things were permitted to drift we can see no good reason now for the White House to suddenly become extremely hard to satisfy, especially when the German Empire has met the President half way and acceded to his demands.

The demand on the part of Germany that England be made to observe international law also, is not without merit. Everyone who reads the daily papers notices that notes to England are not followed up and pushed with the vigor that the notes to Germany have been. England should have no favors shown, even if over four hundred very silly bankers and capitalists of this country did wire the king of England their sympathy and offer every assistance except bearing arms in the European conflict.

Neutrality is fine and should be preserved at any cost, but such acts as the four hundred capitalists committed tears down our neutrality that the rank and file of the country hope to keep in fact.

ASK COLUMBIA COUNTY?

Those who sincerely feel that Union county should vote the \$400,000 bond issue for hard surface roads should ask Columbia county people what they think of such a move for Union county.

Columbia county has tasted of this alleged delightful fruit, as portrayed

NEW ARRIVALS IN DRAPERY AND CURTAIN FABRICS

To Help Make the Home Beautiful

The drapery department announces the arrival of new Cretonnes, Repps, Silkolines, Curtain Serims, Marquisettes, etc.

Curtain Materials that are new, stylish and really do beautify—Just see the window display of new serims and of some very striking and tasteful patterns in Cretonnes of the popular old-rose and pink coloring—also other beautiful patterns at the drapery department—

CRETONNES

A big selection of New Colorings 15c, 18c, 30c 40c, 50c yard

CURTAIN SCRIMS

The best values ever offered 12 1/2c, 18c, 20c, 35c, 60c, yard

New White Goods

An extensive assortment of the new weaves in sheer, medium and heavy weights—the most attractive white goods values we have ever shown in many a season. Advance orders enable us to quote unmatched offerings at 10c, 12 1-2c, 18c, 20c, 25c, 35c, 45c yard

SHEER STYLES ARE

Plain voiles, splash voiles, check voiles, lace voiles, English voiles, crepe voiles, crepes, swisses, dimities, etc.

MEDIUM WEIGHT WHITE GOODS

In the fashionable white gabardines and poplins in plain weaves and stripes—madrass in plain stripe and check styles also pique, in all sized cords; linen and Palm Beach suitings. At the yard 15c to 50c

HEAVY WEIGHT WHITE GOODS

In a great assortment of popular weaves for skirts and suits—Gabardines, Piques, Repp, Serge, Poplin, Waffle Cloth, Goffines—Moderate priced 18c to 50c Yd.

N. M. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure Made from Cream of Tartar NO ALUM—NO PHOSPHATE

We shall gladly give you Financial Guidance Come in



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IT IS A PLEASURE TO US TO "GUIDE" OUR CUSTOMERS AND THEIR FRIENDS IN MAKING FINANCIAL MOVES.

OUR BANK IS A MEMBER OF THE 'FEDERAL RESERVE' SYSTEM OF BANKS WHICH STAND TOGETHER TO PROTECT THEIR DEPOSITORS.

WE CAN TAKE OUR SECURITIES TO OUR DISTRICT RESERVE BANK AND GET MONEY.

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

COME IN.

BANK WITH US. La Grande National Bank LA GRANDE, OREGON

Capital \$200,000.00, Surplus \$50,000.00, Resources \$1,000,000.00 Fred J. Holmes, President; C. C. Penington, Vice President; F. L. Meyers, Cashier; E. Zundel and H. E. Coolidge, Assistant Cashiers.

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note of many of our ills. Now let Vic Murdock put the lid on the sugar bowl for a starter.

For the steenth time Americans have been called out of Mexico. Even the strongest admirers of President Wilson will soon have to weaken on his Mexican policy.

The cold weather has not killed the germ that grows the Union horse show, according to Union people who have been here the last few days.

Cove insists it still has plenty of cherries. There is nothing quite like Cove optimism and let us hope she is not mistaken.

Supporting La Grande's band is a pleasant duty. Whether you dance or not help out with the expenses tonight.

Keep up your courage, Mr. Candidate, the agony will not last much longer.

Next Friday will be both lucky and unlucky, according to viewpoint taken by candidates.

A nibble now and then on town property convinces one that things are coming back.

Well, it was a short summer, but very delightful.

Notice to Grangers.

Blue Mountain Grange will celebrate "Home Coming Day" at their hall on May 20, at eleven a. m. All former members of this grange are cordially invited to attend. The afternoon meeting being open and all farmers are welcome.

FRED W. ASHLEY.



Enterprise man who seeks joint representation nomination by Republican party for Union and Walwala counties. Fewer laws—lower taxes, efficiency and service are some of his policies. (Paid Advertising.)